

# Protest theme during Sona: It's payback time

STORY  
ON PAGE A2

Only 11 of 74 kiddie shows get Unicef nod

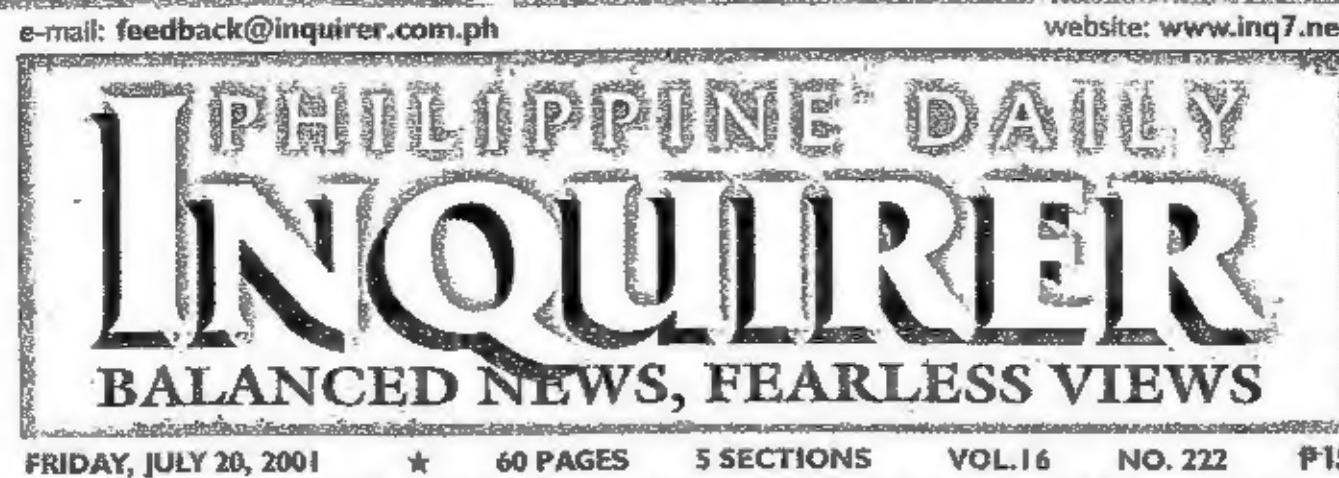
BY AGNES DONATO

ONLY 11 of the 74 children's program aired on the country's free TV channels could be recommended for viewing by minors.

This was revealed in a research conducted for the "Parents Guide to TV Viewing," the most recent publication of the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef).

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ONLY A7



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FAT/A20



# Peso bounces back to 53.20 against \$1

Market welcomes DoF-BSP teamwork

BY CLARISSA S. BATINO

AFTER crashing to a six-month low of 54.335 against the dollar on Wednesday before recovering to 53.74, the peso firmed up further to 53.20 yesterday.

Traders said the peso rebounded after officials of the finance department and the central bank announced that they were working together to ease pressure on the local currency and taking decisive steps to rein in the country's budget deficit.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas reportedly sold \$40 million on the spot market on Thursday, about half of what the central bank dumped the previous day.

Volume reached \$122.3 million compared with \$169 million on Wednesday. The peso also opened stronger at 52.65 to the dollar.

BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura said he met with Finance Secretary Jose Camacho on Wednesday after President Macapagal-Arroyo "had asked the secretary to cooperate with me... to ensure fiscal policy was consistent with monetary policy."

Camacho confirmed Buenaventura's statement. "The national government and the central bank are now occupying more sensitive posts in the Armed Forces."



ELECTRIFYING PALACE: Malacafang is prepared for unwanted intruders. It can simply turn on a switch and shock them away. An electrified system now being installed covers the entire Palace fence. (Story on Page A3.)

JOAN BONDOC

## 2 loyal military officers promoted

BY CARLITO PABLO

TWO military officers who played key roles in the defense of Malacafang during the May 1 siege by forces loyal to Joseph Estrada are now occupying more sensitive posts in the Armed Forces.

The promotions were made amid talk of continuing efforts by shadowy forces to destabilize the administration of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Brig. Gen. Delfin Lorenzana, who served as overall ground commander of the troops that protected

the Palace during the siege, is now commanding officer of the Special Operations Command (Socom), mother unit of the elite Scout Rangers and Special Forces.

As Socom commander, Lorenzana will also assume the leadership of Task Force Libra,

which was formed in April to suppress power grab attempts against the administration.

He replaced Maj. Gen. Dionisio Santiago, who set up command inside Camp Aguinaldo during the pro-Estrada rallies at Edsa in April.

2 LOYAL/A26

## Businessmen still upbeat on GMA, says Palace

BY JULIET L. JAVELLANA  
AND PHILIP C. TUBEZA

MALACAÑANG is taking issue with reports that investor sentiment has turned from boom to gloom, saying that the media misinterpreted the results of the survey of Makati businessmen.

"The report on boom turns to gloom isn't in the survey. They read too much in the survey," president-

tial spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao yesterday said.

Tiglao pointed out that the survey conducted by the Makati Business Club (MBC) on July 3-17 had found a surge in confidence in the Macapagal administration.

"So maybe you can change your headline," the presidential spokesperson said of the INQUIRER.

The INQUIRER reported that the shift in investor sentiment from

boom to gloom over the past six months came as euphoria over the change in administration gave way to depression.

The survey found that 71 percent of the respondents expected economic growth this year to be lower than last year's.

In contrast, 66 percent of the respondents in a similar MBC survey taken shortly after President Macapagal-Arroyo assumed power

in January expected the economy to perform better this year.

"Of course it's worse and even the government had admitted this," Tiglao said of the economic outlook this year.

He said the growth target of 4 percent this year was scaled down to 3.3-3.8 percent "because of the US and Japanese economic downturn", which affected exports that account for 40 percent of the gross

domestic product.

Despite the expected economic slowdown this year, 81.5 percent of the MBC respondents reported "positive developments" since Ms Macapagal became the President, according to Tiglao.

Tiglao arrived at the figure by adding the responses of businessmen to four of seven "positive developments."

BUSINESSMEN/A21



ARMM Gov. Nur Misuari's residential compound (above) in San Roque, Zamboanga City, where (at right) boxes of ammo with DND markings were confiscated by police

DENNIS SABANGAN

## Police raid Nur compound; ammo seized

BY THE PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Police raided a residential compound owned by Gov. Nur Misuari of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao at dawn yesterday and confiscated from a hut there assorted high-powered ammunition contained in boxes supposedly with "DND" markings.

The raid on the compound in Barangay San Roque was covered by a search warrant issued on July 11 by Judge Jesus Carbon. The raiding team found the ammunition in a hut occupied by the compound caretaker identified as Asah Asmawil.

Because of the markings on the boxes—"DND," ostensibly for "Department of National Defense"—Supt. Mario Yanga, city police director, appealed to the military "to look deeper into this case."

He said it was possible that men in uniform were engaged in illegal activities in the city and that Asmawil had been selling military hardware "at the right price."

"As to who are providing the supplies, that still has to be

POLICE/A7

# Second FRONT PAGE



**SONA: PAYBACK TIME**

# Militants gird for protests

BY VOLT CONTRERAS

### "IT'S payback time!"

This will be the theme of Monday's nationwide mass actions directed against President Macapagal-Arroyo by groups that had been allied with her at Edsa 2, but which have since expressed grave disappointment with her governance.

The militant groups revved themselves up yesterday in a People's Summit at the University of the Philippines Film Center, where they outlined a host of unmet demands from the Macapagal administration, including a P125 legislation across-the-board wage hike.

But in an indication that the groups' resentment toward Malacafang had not yet reached the level of intensity it did during the ouster of President Joseph Estrada, there will no effigy burnings and anti-Macapagal jingles during the march, according to Teddy Casilio of Bayan.

Casilio said "it will be an entirely different story (*ibang usapan na 'yan*) once that happened."

### Last good chance

But Elmer Labog, secretary general of Kilusang Mayo Uno, hinted at more

street unrest when he said Ms Macapagal's State of the Nation Address on Monday will be her "last good chance... to do something beneficial for the workers and the people."

"Following the Sona, if the Macapagal government remains unmoved and inconsiderate of workers' demands, then it should watch out for bigger protests in the coming months that the labor sector will launch," he said.

Another summit speaker, party-list representative-elect Salur Ocampo of Bayan Muna, assailed the military for branding the upcoming mobilization as the handiwork of the communists meant to disrupt Ms Macapagal's Sona, her first as President.

Ocampo chided the Armed Forces for "wasting public funds" in coming up with another intelligence report linking the Communist Party of the Philippines to the Sona protests.

"They rehash old press releases then say they're intelligence reports. This is the work of stupid and lazy people (*trahabong baba at tamaad*)," Ocampo said in his speech.

He said the military was apparently showing off to the President who recently unveiled a package of additional benefits for soldiers and fattened the military's modernization budget.

**Photo-ops**  
Bayan Muna and other mili-

tant organizations are pressing for a P125 legislated across-the-board wage increase and "concrete" anti-poverty measures that would go beyond "Presidential visits, photo-ops, dole-outs."

Yesterday's summit was a virtual refresher course on the gamut of issues to be raised during Monday's protests, including demands for genuine land reform, affordable education and social housing, and an end to globalization and privatization policies, labor contractualization and the demolition of squatters' homes.

Other issues expected to be raised are the perceived delays and media restrictions attending the Estrada trial and the warrantless arrests being carried out by the military in Basilan in their hunt for Abu Sayyaf.

Monday's rallies will be the first nationally coordinated mass actions directed at the President by the same groups that helped oust Estrada through People Power 2 last January and installed Macapagal.

### Protest theme

"It's payback time!" Casilio quipped when asked by reporters what the theme of Monday's Sona demonstrations would be.

Protesters will assemble at 11 a.m. at the Ever-Gotesco area on Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City, before marching to the Sandiganbayan Centennial Building at 1 p.m. The day's program is expected to last until 5 or 6 p.m.

In Davao City, Muslims have con-

firmed their participation in the demonstration outside Congress when President Macapagal delivers her address.

Prof. Abhoud Syed Lingga of the Bangsamoro Independence Council said Muslims under the umbrella organization Maradika, will be pressing for the independence of the Bangsamoro people. Maradika is Malay for freedom.

"Our Muslim brothers in Manila will be joining the mass protest. This is to show the world that beneath the rhetoric of preserving the Philippine nation, there is a continuing growing call from the Bangsamoro for independence," Lingga said.

### Etta's protest

Inside the halls of Congress, however, one group of new representatives will have to stand in the gallery if they want to hear what the President has to say.

That's because a group of party-list winners have yet to be proclaimed by the Commission on Elections even as the 12th Congress opens on Monday.

Rep. Etta Rosales of Akbayan said her fellow unproclaimed party-list representatives might just have to stand in the gallery.

"The other winners have been calling me and I told them not to be shy about standing there. *Kapal mukha muna tayo* (Let's be thick-skinned for a while)," Rosales said.

"It is important to listen to the President and hear what her agenda will be," she said. With Philip C. Tadeza and Allan A. Naval and Josefa Badilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau

## PPC senators look to Gloria to end impasse

BY ARMAND N. NOCUM

ADMINISTRATION senators are looking to the President to break the impasse prevailing over the issue of the Senate presidency and the allocation of key posts and committee chairmanships.

The senators under the People Power Coalition, however, were set to meet last night for a final stab at hammering out an agreement on the issue.

One key question to be resolved is the insistence of Sen. Franklin Drilon—President Macapagal's apparent choice for Senate president—to give the powerful Finance committee chairmanship to former opposition member-turned-independent, Sen. John Osmena.

"Is John O acceptable as the 13th member of the administration bloc? Is he coming in alone or is he going to bring in other opposition senators?" asked Sen. Ralph Recto.

A candidate for senate president needs a majority of 13 votes to clinch the leadership of the 24-member body.

In a telephone interview with the INQUIRER, Recto said that with the power-sharing issue resolved between Drilon and Sen. Renato Cayetano, the PPC could now count on the support of 12 senators, not including Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr., who is out to keep his post.

### Inevitable intervention

In a separate interview, Cayetano said intervention by the President has become inevitable.

"If you fail to break a deadlock, you get someone you respect to make the decision for you so the impasse could be broken," Cayetano said. Asked if he was referring to the President, he answered in the affirmative.

If the President fails to break the impasse, Cayetano said the matter should be decided with the "toss of a coin."

He hastened to add, however, that the administration senators were working "to ensure the unity of the PPC."

Recto said he was particularly concerned that John Osmena might turn out to be the "Trojan horse" of the opposition.

Reports have it that LDP Senators Rodolfo Biazon and Teresa Aquino-Oreta might also join the administration bloc.

### Wooing the Osmenias

This was confirmed by an administration senator who said there were reports opposition Sen. Edgardo Angara has been wooing cousins Sergio Osmena III and John Osmena to join them. Both senators reportedly want to head the finance committee.

The senator also revealed that Sen. Loren Legarda was likely to get the post of Senate pro tempore, over neophyte Sen. Manuel Villar.

The post was reportedly offered to Pimentel, who declined it saying he will continue to court on the possibility that neither the administration nor the opposition blocs would get the 13 majority votes, thus enabling him to hold on to the Senate presidency.

The source also said there was increasing pressure on the PPC senators to accept John Osmena into their fold since Drilon had promised him the finance committee months ago.

Drilon reportedly offered the post to Osmena after the latter offered him his vote for Senate president.

A source close to Drilon said the PPC has really no choice but to take in John Osmena so they would have the numbers.

## Perjury raps against Erap amended anew

BY DONNA S. CUETO

FOR the third time, the Ombudsman has tried to amend the information in the perjury case it filed against former President Joseph Estrada, seeking to restore it to its original version.

This third attempt to amend the charge sheet has prompted defense lawyers to "hold in abeyance" their motion seeking permission for Estrada and his co-accused son, Jinggoy, to return to their homes to prepare for the pre-trial in the perjury case.

This latest attempt at an amendment could even lead to a postponement of the Aug. 2 pre-trial, according to the defense lawyers.

In the latest correction, the Ombudsman wants the initials "e.g." short for "for example," restored in the information.

The original information filed on April 4 charged Estrada with perjury for filing an allegedly false Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Worth (SALN).

Estrada had allegedly claimed his net worth as of Dec. 31, 1999 was P35.862,739.97 and that he had holdings only in JELP Real Estate and Development Corp., J.E. Inc. and Felisa Dev. Corp., when he had other various corporate holdings and connections e.g. St. Peters Holding Co.; Erap Muslim Youth Foundation Inc.; Fountain Inc.; Valhalla Resources Co.; Becks Resources Co.; KB Space Holdings Co.; Verdant Resources Co., and VFC Realty and Dev. Corp.

It also alleged that Estrada had P1.117 billion in bank accounts.

The information was first amended on May 15, when the prosecution deleted the portion alleging that Estrada had P1.117 billion in undeclared bank accounts and reduced the number of firms that he supposedly had interests in from eight to five.

The prosecution also claimed that Estrada "had more than" the P35.86 million that he had declared as his net worth in his 1999 SALN.

On June 27, minutes before the arraignment of Estrada before the Sandiganbayan First Division, the court "pricked the prosecution to further amend the amended information by removing the abbreviation 'e.g.' which appeared before the enumeration of the corporations stated therein, as it ruled that examples should not be alleged in the information."

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# 2 alleged ABB leaders released

By PHILIP C. TUBEZA  
AND CARLA GOMEZ  
*PDI Visayas Bureau*

THE TWO alleged members of the Alex Boncayao Brigade who were arrested in Quezon City Monday were released late Wednesday night after they posted bail of P280,000.

The two—Danilo Singh and Rolando Marcelo—denied having anything to do with the ABB and said they were planning to file charges of illegal arrest and detention against the military authorities who arrested them.

Singh posted P200,000 bail while Marcelo's bond was P80,000. They were charged with illegal possession of firearms, according to Ruel Garcia of the Sosyalistang Kilusang Manggagawa (SKM).

"Singh and Marcelo are SKM organizers. They definitely have no links to pro-Erap supporters or any destabilization attempts. The SKM is planning a peaceful mobilization on Monday," Garcia said.

Army intelligence agents arrested Singh and Marcelo at a McDonald's restaurant near the Quezon Memorial Circle after they were accused of being involved in a destabilization attempt against the government to be carried out allegedly when President Macapagal-Arroyo delivers her first State of the Nation Address on July 23.

Garcia said Singh and Marcelo were arrested without warrants. He said the two were also held for more than 24 hours before they were charged.

Garcia said the first prosecutor to handle the case wanted it investigated further, but the chief prosecutor reportedly decided to file the charges in court Tuesday night.

"They (Singh and Marcelo) are talking with our lawyers about filing charges of illegal arrest and detention against the military," Garcia said.

He said the SKM has also asked the Commission on Human Rights to investigate the arrests.

## Haydee asks 2 claimant groups to settle problem

SHORTLY after being called to act as intermediary between the two claimant groups, the Presidential Commission on Good Government urged the human rights victims to "settle their problem" among themselves.

Newly appointed PCGG Chair Haydee Yorac said the problem of the claimants has a more serious root and could be solved only by the victims themselves.

The PCGG separately met with the Samahan ng Ex-detainees Luban sa Detensyon at Para sa Amnestiya (Selida) led by Marie Hilario-Enriquez and the Claimants 1081 led by Akbayan Rep. Enita Rossales.

Yorac said the PCGG could only try to get them together to talk among themselves and hopefully agree on the terms of a bill to be drafted by the PCGG for the indemnification of the claimants.

"The problem is between themselves, but I think they should start talking. We can have continuous dialogue involving all parties about this," Yorac said in her first press conference Wednesday.

The PCGG chair said it was legally impossible at this point to indemnify the claimants with a third of the \$644-million escrow fund or the \$35-million Arrelana assets pending litigation in a US court.

"I want to point out that the law organizing the PCGG also directs all financial and other recoveries to the CARP (Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program). And there are no two ways about that," Yorac said.

## Palace in state of paranoia —Sanlakas

THE GOVERNMENT is under a "state of paranoia."

This was the reaction of the militant group Sanlakas to the administration's decision to surround Malacañang with electrical fences.

"This (electrical fence) is a symbol of Ate Glo's alienation from the masses. If she is really sincere about helping the poor, why is she having nightmares about another assault of the masses on Malacañang. Makhang guilty," said Wilson Fortalaza, Sanlakas president.

He said this only shows that the administration is in a heightened "state of paranoia."

But Fortalaza said that it is not the President who's the problem but the "system itself."

"It's not Gloria or Erap who's our problem. It's the system. The root of our poverty is globalization," he said.

He noted that the slide of the peso during former President Estrada's regime continues under the new administration.

"Our problems were not solved when we had an actor as president. Now we have an economist as president, but many are still getting hungry. The same things are happening because the policies government is implementing have not changed," Fortalaza said.

Garcia said Singh and Marcelo were blindfolded when they were picked up outside the restaurant. When the blindfolds were removed, they found themselves in Fort Bonifacio, he said.

"Their interrogators also slapped them in the head when they denied the charges against them," Garcia said.

He said Monday's arrests were the latest in a series of harassment moves against the SKM, a breakaway group composed of the former members of Kibusung Mayo Uno and Sanlakas.

Garcia said that in March 1999, SKM organizer Prudencio Bation was abducted while he was on his way to a meeting in Caloocan City. He remains missing despite efforts of the SKM and human rights activists to learn what happened to him.

Last year, 12 SKM members were arrested and accused of being ABB members, he said.

"We don't even have ties with the ABB. We are a legal organization trying to propagate socialist answers to our country's problems," Garcia said.

For its part, the Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPA-ABB) yesterday disowned Singh and Marcelo.

Capul Luahati, RPA-ABB commander, said in a statement the two used to be ABB members but were expelled three years ago with other members for alleged involvement in illegal activities.

The ABB was then an urban hit squad of the New People's Army. It was under the defunct Metro Manila-Rizal Regional Party Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines and was headed by Felimon Lagman, alias Ka Popoy, before it merged with the RPA in 1996, Luahati said.

The RPA-ABB was the military arm of the Revolutionary Partidong Manggagawa-Pilipinas (RPM-P) formed by rebel leaders who broke away from the CPP-NPA over ideological differences, he added.

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# Anti-Erap lawyer under fire, sees smear job

BY MICHAEL LIM UBAC

THE LEADER of a lawyers' group is now under fire after reports surfaced that he had been disbarred by the State Bar Court of California in the United States for a misdemeanor charge 11 years ago.

Lawyer Leonard de Vera, head of Caucus of Lawyers for Erap's Abrupt Resignation (Clear), and a private prosecutor in the aborted impeachment trial of deposed President Joseph Estrada, was also sued by three of his own clients in the US.

De Vera, however, sees it as part of a demolition job against him.

"Obviously there's a demolition

job launched against me especially in the media. But this is a small price for me to pay in our fight for equal justice for all," said De Vera in a statement sent to the Inquirer.

Contrary to reports, he said he was the one who resigned from the State Bar of California. He said he was not suspended or disbarred.

"Second, I have never been an American citizen. I have never renounced my Filipino citizenship. I am proud to be a Filipino. I will continue to uphold this citizenship because I believe in the Filipino's search for truth that will set him free from political and social monstrosities," he added.

De Vera also stressed that he was

not a fugitive from the law. "I was never charged or convicted of any crime in the United States, in the Philippines nor in any other part of the world. I am free to come in and out of the US."

Despite the accusations, he said he would still help in the prosecution of Estrada.

"I would still do my job to prosecute the Erap plunder cases. I hope they would respect the truth. My law practice, both in the US and in the Philippines, as could be attested by many testimonials, will show that I have assisted the weak and the poor in their fight for justice. I have rendered many pro bono cases at the risk of my own life," he added.

Documents obtained by the In-

quirer from the State Bar of California showed that certain Julius Willis Jr., Rose Borden and Germina Santos sued De Vera due to a misunderstanding over the latter's lawyer's fees, among others.

Educated in the Philippines, De Vera had been practicing law in California since the 1970s after he secured a license.

However, there were inconsistencies in Borden and Santos' statements, paving the way for the dismissal of the charges.

The charges hurled by Willis were by far the most serious.

The Referee tasked by the State Bar Court to handle the administrative case found a number of viola-

tions of the Rules of Professional Conduct and Sections of the Business and Profession Code, all arising out of De Vera's conduct in respect to funds due his client from a settlement in a personal injury action.

The Referee, Judge Bill Dozier, ruled against De Vera and slapped him with a three-year suspension. The penalty, however, was reduced to nine months, provided that he would be placed under probation.

Dozier recommended the penalty after he found that De Vera committed "acts involving moral turpitude and dishonesty."

He said these acts were in violation of Business and Professional Code Section 6102, "in that he re-

ceived funds belonging to a client, hid their receipt from the client, put the funds in his own personal checking account and spent most of them for his own benefit without the consent (or knowledge) of the client."

De Vera also violated the Business and Professions Code Section 6102 "in that his above-described conduct was a violation of his duties as an attorney."

The recommendation was forwarded to the US Supreme Court review department. Before it could review the ruling, De Vera resigned as member of the State Bar, prompting the latter to terminate the proceedings.

The US high court then accepted his resignation on Jan. 29, 1991.

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## Naia 3 deal a monopoly, says solon

THE CONTRACT for the construction of Terminal 3 of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, which has been awarded to the Philippine International Air Terminals Co. Inc. and a German consortium, is virtually a grant of a monopoly.

This was the statement of Rep. Raul M. Gonzalez, who said that the build-operate-transfer contract granted PIATCO was lopsided in favor of PIATCO and "overwhelmingly unfavorable" to the Philippine government.

Under the agreement, PIATCO will construct the state-of-the-art Naia 3 in exchange for exclusive management of the airport, cargo, ground handling and meal-in-flight services for 25 years."

Members of the Airline Operators Council (AOC) and International Air Transport Association Consultative Council (IATA-ACC) have also asked President Macapagal-Arroyo to review and correct the contract with PIATCO to protect the aviation industry and the air travelling public.



VALHANDUMON

### NEW ENVOY

New Lebanese Ambassador to the Philippines Jaafar Moawi (left) meets members of the local diplomatic corps at cocktails hosted recently at The Prince restaurant in Makati by Lebanese Vice Consul Joseph Assad (middle).

## C. Visayas now No. 1 in dengue fever cases

BY NORMAN BORDADORA

CENTRAL Visayas, with the increased clustering of dengue fever cases in Bacolod City and nearby areas, has overtaken Metro Manila as the region with the most number of dengue infections nationwide.

Reports reaching the DOH head office in Manila showed that Central Visayas has not only breached the 1,000 mark in less than two weeks but has overtaken the national capital region with 1,311 dengue fever cases.

The cases in Central Visayas jumped to 400 in two weeks. The sudden increase is blamed on the uncontrollable breeding of the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito in stagnant pools of water left by the onslaught of monsoon rains.

Metro Manila, the ewkwhale most afflicted region, is still high in the rankings. It is close second with 1,217 cases.

In its news release regarding the increasing number of dengue cases just last week, the DOH reported that there were only more than 900 cases in the Central Visayas. It was already a close second to Metro Manila, which then had only 1,099 cases.

On a nationwide scale, the DOH already has recorded more than 5,000 dengue fever cases. An additional 10 patients have died since the DOH posted the death toll at 40 or so just two weeks ago.

Ages of the cases ranged from one month to 74

years. Majority (53 percent) of the cases were male. Most of the cases belonged to the 1-9 years age group.

Clustering of cases was noted in Malabon, Tala, Caloocan; Reparo Street, Bagong Barrio, Caloocan; Sapang Palay, San Jose del Monte, Bulacan; Pinagdantayan, Dolores, Quezon; Banago, Mandalagan, Taculing and Tangulo in Bacolod City.

"Everybody should get involved in the fight against dengue," Dayrit said, adding that local government units play a bigger role in sustaining the cleanup campaign in the school and in the community.

According to the National Epidemiology Center, the reported outbreak in Zamboanga City is still ongoing. However, the Department of Health assured that activities to contain the outbreak are being done by the local government and the city health office.

To prevent cases, Dayrit urged local health authorities to conduct entomologic surveys to identify and destroy breeding sites of mosquitoes. The common breeding places of mosquitoes are flower vases, roof gutters, old tires, coconut husks and empty cans and bottles.

"Based on the epidemiologic pattern of dengue, the DOH is expecting a big epidemic this year. It is only with being vigilant with cleanliness and in the destruction of breeding sites can we control the epidemic," Dayrit concluded.

### Aussies mum on RP bid to join slay probe

THE AUSTRALIAN government has yet to respond to Manila's offer to send Filipino police investigators to Sydney to help in solving the murders of the Gonzales family.

The Department of Foreign Affairs is apparently intent on sending investigators, although some sectors said the case should be left to Australian authorities.

"That's an opinion. But I think they'll be useful," said Antonio Curameng, director of the DFA's consular affairs division.

He said if ever the proposal pushes through, the team of Filipino policemen "will not conduct their own investigation, but will assist (the local police) in whatever way they can."

Vice President and Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona Jr. announced his intention Tuesday during a meeting with Australian embassy officials.

"I haven't heard from the Australian Embassy. Maybe they're giving this proposal deep and serious consideration," Curameng said.

Lawyer Teddy Gonzales, wife Mary Josephine Loiba and their children Clodine, 18, and Sof, 20, migrated to Australia in the early 90s and have since become naturalized Australian citizens.

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## ART PETRON 1st National Student Art Competition

**A. Rules and Regulations**

- The overall theme for this painting competition is "Lumang Laro, Bagong Likha." Entries must feature children playing a Filipino indigenous game and must capture vivid expressions of joy, triumph, determination, and vigor. Portrayal of a rarely-featured Filipino game is encouraged. The paintings must point out values such as fairness, healthy competition, team spirit, and cooperation. All entered artworks must not be in abstract form and must be signed by the artist.
- The painting competition is open to all Filipino college students and students of art whether in a university program or a tutorial or museum-based painting class.
  - Application forms are available at the Project Secretariat Office c/o Studio 5 Designs, 28 Paseo de Roxas corner Jupiter St., Bel-Air Village 1209, Makati City. Telephone numbers are 8953971 or 8909318. Application form contained herein may also be used.
  - The participating student must be of good standing and of good moral character. A letter of recommendation of good moral character from the respective deans or art teacher must be attached to the application form.
  - Application forms must be validated by the respective dean of the college or university or the art teacher of a tutorial or museum-based painting class.
- The application forms must be accompanied by a duly-accomplished affidavit as provided.

**B. Categories**

- This painting competition has two (2) contest categories:

- A. Watercolor**
  - The surface to be used for this category shall be watercolor paper or illustration board.
  - The official size for this category shall not be less than 22 x 29 inches, not more than 55 x 75 inches (unframed).
- B. Oil / Acrylic**
  - The surface to be used for this category shall either be canvas, canvas paper, or wood.
  - The official size for this category shall not be more than 4 ft. x 4 ft. (unframed)

- All entries must be original and not have been previously exhibited or revised or awarded a prize in another contest.

**C. Submission Mechanics**

- Submission of all entries will be until July 25, 2001 at the Project Secretariat Office c/o Studio 5 Designs, 28 Paseo de Roxas corner Jupiter St., Bel-Air Village 1209, Makati City. You have an option of sending your entry via the standard registered package procedure or through any local freight forwarding company (e.g. LBC, JRS, DHL, FedEx, etc.)
- All entered artwork must be properly labeled with the following:
  - Category
  - Artist (name, address & telephone, cellular phone, pager or fax no., and e-mail address)

**CUT & SUBMIT**

**Official Entry Form**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TEL NO., FAX NO. &amp; EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

AGE \_\_\_\_\_ GENDER:  MALE  FEMALE

COLLEGE / UNIVERSITY / OTHERS \_\_\_\_\_

COURSE / DEGREE \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn of the competition? (Please check one.)

- POSTER  BROCHURE  ART GROUP  ADVERTISEMENT  Others. \_\_\_\_\_

Have you had any formal visual arts training? If yes, please indicate.

- YES  NO \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever joined any painting competition in the past? What competition and year?

- YES  NO \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby swear to the truth of the information provided above and have read, understood and will abide by the contest rules and regulations as stated. DO NOT FORGET to attach your three 2x2 photos, a copy of your birth certificate and photo of artwork. Please initialize your enclosed affidavit.

TITLE OF PAINTING \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of your chosen indigenous game:

SIZE \_\_\_\_\_

MEDIUM \_\_\_\_\_

MONTH PAINTING WAS STARTED \_\_\_\_\_

ESTIMATED SELLING PRICE \_\_\_\_\_

MONTH COMPLETED \_\_\_\_\_

Please answer the following questions.

Why did you choose the subject to render the theme?

Who can you give credit to your artistic inclinations? Whose works do you admire most?

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 PAINTING TITLE \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME & SIG. \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Affidavit**

Filipino, \_\_\_\_\_ years old, single/married with a residence and postal address at \_\_\_\_\_ after having been duly sworn on oath in accordance with the law, hereby depose and say that :

- I am joining the ART PETRON : The 1st National Student Art Competition, and in connection therewith, I am submitting as my official entry, the painting entitled " \_\_\_\_\_ " hereinafter called the "ENTRY".
- The ENTRY is my original and exclusive creation, being the result of my intellect and labor alone, and has not been copied from nor is similar to any previous or existing artwork (painting, sketch, photograph, etc.) in terms of composition or otherwise even if rendered in a different style, medium or color scheme.
- The decision of the Board of Judges as to whether my ENTRY is original shall be final and I bind myself to honor the said decision.
- I started work on the above stated ENTRY on the month of \_\_\_\_\_ and completed and prepared the same for competition on \_\_\_\_\_.
- If I fail to claim my ENTRY on the dates specified in the rules, then I agree that it shall automatically become the property of the Petron Corporation.
- I have read and I will abide by the rules, regulations and requirements governing the above mentioned competition and, in this regard, I hereby exempt, discharge, release and free Petron Corporation and its directors/ trustees/ officers and staff from any claim or liability arising from any loss or damage which my ENTRY may suffer while being transported or while otherwise in the custody of Petron Corporation.
- I am executing this affidavit to attest to the truth, veracity and validity of all the foregoing and to certify, under oath, originality, authenticity, and ownership of my above mentioned ENTRY, under pain of perjury.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2001, in the City / Province of \_\_\_\_\_

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Page No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Series of 2001.

**AFFIANT**

ARTIST COPY

PAINTING COPY

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# Recto lawyers block recount

BY GERALD G. LACUARTA

A BATTERY of lawyers for Sen. Ralph Recto yesterday blocked the re-opening of certificates of canvass in 20 towns in Mindanao where a total of 180,000 votes were being contested by the Puwersa ng Massa for allegedly being padded in favor of Recto.

Manolo Gorospe and Rojhulo Macalintal, counsels for the People Power Coalition and Recto, respectively, questioned the jurisdiction of the National Board of Canvassers over the four petitions of by PnM Sen. Loi Ejercito asking the NBOC to reopen the municipal COCs and statements of votes for precinct in the 20 towns.

One of the four petitions also sought the correction of Recto's tally which still included 30,000 votes which the NBOC had earlier ordered deducted in the COC of Zamboanga del Norte after

these were found to have been padded. The petition said Recto, and not Sen. Gregorio Honasan, should have been in 13th position when the 13 winning senators were proclaimed on June 4 had the 30,000 votes been deducted.

The NBOC reconvened yesterday after a 45-day lull in the canvass and finally heard the four petitions filed between June 2 and June 19 by former immigration commissioner Rufus Rodriguez, counsel and chief of staff of Ejercito.

In questioning the NBOC's jurisdiction, Macalintal cited a recent Supreme Court ruling in the complaint filed by losing senatorial candidate Eddie Gil against Comelec Chair Alfredo Benipayo which said the jurisdiction of the Comelec in matters pertaining to the senatorial elections ends with the proclamation of the senators subject to the completion of the canvass.

Macalintal also said that the corre-

ction of votes being sought by Ejercito could only be done by reopening the ballot boxes which was already the function of the Senate Electoral Tribunal.

"This board has no jurisdiction to look into ballot counting," Macalintal said. "The results of the voting cannot be looked into by the NBOC."

Macalintal said the proper recourse of Ejercito's lawyers was to file a certiorari with the Supreme Court to question the resolution of the Comelec on June 4 proclaiming the 13 winning senators.

Macalintal said even if the 30,000 votes were deducted from Zamboanga del Norte, Recto would still remain in 12th position since Recto outvoted Honasan in Lanao del Sur whose COC was the last to be canvassed.

Recto and Honasan are locked in a tight battle for the 12th position which carries with it a full six-year term. The eventual 13th placer would serve only

for three years to complete the unfinished term of former senator Teofisto Guingona, now the Vice President.

But Rodriguez said in the hearing that for the NBOC to ignore the glaring manifest errors and statistical improbability of the election results in the 20 towns in Lanao del Norte, Maguindanao and Lanao del Sur would be to "abandon on its sworn duty to uphold the integrity of the electoral system."

"In the interest of fair play and transparency and to determine the true mandate of the people, we ask the NBOC to take a look at these municipal COCs and SOVs by precinct as it had earlier done during the canvassing at the PICC," Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez referred to the discovery of 94,000 padded Recto votes in Tawi-Tawi, Maguindanao and Sultan Kudarat which the NBOC had ordered deducted through Resolution 01-003.

# Bilibid chief wants 8,000 convicts out

BY BLANCHE S. RIVERA  
AND CATHY C. YAMSUAN

SOME 8,000 prisoners should be out of the New Bilibid Prisons by year end if the new chief warden had his way.

Col. Ricardo Macala (ret.), NBP chief, said he was working out the release of some 4,000 inmates eligible for parole and conditional pardons but whose cases the Bureau of Pardons and Parole (BPP) has yet to act on.

Macala is also pushing for the transfer of another 4,000 prisoners from the NBP to less congested prisons in the provinces to improve conditions at the penitentiary located in Muntinlupa City.

"Many inmates are eligible for pardon or parole but their cases have not been heard because nobody has bothered to check their records," Macala told the INQUIRER during a recent interview.

"We got their records and forwarded them to the BPP. Now the bureau is responsible for the delay," he said. "Processing is slow in that office."

The BPP has imposed stringent rules, including additional requirements, before a prisoner is released after convicted priest killer Norberto Manero was inadvertently freed last year despite the enormity of his crime and his sentence.

Records show the NBP has a capacity of 8,000 inmates but hosts 15,244. Its congestion rate of 88 percent makes it the most crowded prison in the country.

Since Macala took over as NBP director in March, 1,498 inmates have been freed although this was less than half of the 3,680 prisoners eligible for release.

The release of prisoners is based on old age, completion of sentence, political amnesty, parole, conditional pardon, reversal of conviction or acquittal, habeas corpus, probation, dismissal of the case and filing of bond.

## HHH fellowship

THE US Department of State and the Philippine-American Educational Foundation (PAEF) have announced the opening of the competition for the 2002-2003 Hubert H. Humphrey fellowships in the United States.

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year of study and related professional experiences. The Humphrey program was initiated in 1978 to honor the memory and accomplishments of the late US Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey.

The Humphrey Fellowship provides: international/domestic travel, tuition, accident/sickness insurance, monthly maintenance and funding for books and professional activities.

Application forms may be obtained starting July 15, 2001 from the PAEF office at the 10th Floor, Ayala Life-FCU Center, 6811 Ayala Avenue, Makati City (Tel. No. 812-0919, 812-0945 or e-mail (fulbright@paef.org.ph)). Deadline for application is Aug. 31.

## Graft raps filed vs Navy officers

BY MICHAEL LIM UBAC

OMBUDSMAN Aniano Desierto yesterday filed graft charges against a retired rear admiral, a commodore and 13 others in connection with the 1999 drug scam in the Philippine Navy.

Charged with the Sandiganbayan were (Ret.) Rear Admiral Antonio E. Sibayan and three other Navy officers—Commodore Aristote N. Guzman, Commander Florente Diaz and Lt. Commander George G. Segovia.

Also charged were Captains Vicente Escala Jr., Jesus Biola and Sven Manhot and seaman second class Joseph Navarro.

The civilian employees who were implicated were Augusto Iglesia, Primitivo Campos, Leonardo Gamboa, Celso Tablante, Chief Accountant/Comptroller and Treasurer Non S. Guinto, COA Resident State Auditor Chito Ramirez and Victor Chua, owner of Porta Varga pharmacy.

The Ombudsman, however, has yet to finish its investigation into irregularities surrounding purchases at the Navy's Marine Corps, according to Desierto.

Desierto was referring to accusations made by (Ret.) Rear Admiral Guillermo Wong, former Navy flag officer in command, on Feb. 15 that top Marine officials were behind the alleged irregular purchases of supplies, including Kevlar helmets and assault rifles.



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MAYNILA, PHILIPPINES  
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### INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) will conduct a prequalification of prospective bidders for the supply and installation of FM-200 Fire Suppression Systems at the EOPC Building, BSP Main Complex, detailed specifications of which may be obtained from the Manager II, Procurement Division II, Administrative Services Department, Room 212, 2nd Floor, 5-Storey Building, BSP Complex, Makati, Manila, Tel. No. 523-5427/525-0048.

For prequalification purposes, interested bidders must submit/ comply with the following requirements:

- Should have a minimum working capital of P2.5 Million;
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- Certification of sole or authorized distributor in the Philippines of specific brand of Fire Suppression System from the manufacturer; and
- Must have experience in the installation of fire suppression system for at least five (5) years.

The above requirements, together with photocopies of documents listed below (original copies of items 1 and 2 to be presented for authentication purposes), shall be submitted to the Disbursement Control Committee thru the Administrative Services Department not later than August 01, 2001.

1. Articles of incorporation and business Registration Papers of the bidder;
2. 2000 audited Financial Statements (Balance Sheet & Income Statement) of the bidder;
3. 2000 Income Tax Return of the bidder; and
4. Company history/profile of the bidder.

Only those who comply with the above requirements and are prequalified by the Bank will be invited to participate in the actual bidding which will be conducted a later date to be prequalified bidders.

The BSP hereby reserves the right to reject any or all bids, as well as waive any defects or irregularities in such bids, and to accept such bids as may be considered most advantageous to the Bank.

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# Police raid Nur compound; ammo seized

(From page A1)

detained," Yanga said. He said they were also looking into the possibility that Asmawi, a native of Basilan, was the main supplier of guns and ammunition to the Abu Sayyaf and other lawless elements operating in Western Mindanao.

Chief Iusp. Jose Bayana Gucella, who led the raiding team, said the ammunition included 60 grenades for M-79 grenade launchers, 600 and 200 rounds of M-14 and M-16 bullets, and a still undetermined number of rounds of cal. 30 bullets.

Lt. Col. Danilo Servando, spokesperson of the Army's Southern Command, said they would conduct a separate investigation to determine whether the confiscated ammunition had come from the Armed Forces' armory.

He said the ammunition could also be old stocks issued to and used by the MNLF.

"So far, we have not received reports that ammunition had been pilfered by military personnel," Servando said.

Neither Misuri nor Asmawi was in the compound when the raid was conducted.

## Affront

Mahendra Madjilon, director of the ARMM Bureau of Public Information, denied knowing Asmawi and said the ammunition belonged to Misuri's security men.

Speaking for the governor, Madjilon said the raid was an affront to the 1996 peace agreement between the government and the Moro National Liberation Front, which Misuri chairs.

Madjilon also said the raid "could be part of (the government's) attempt to disable Misuri because of the (MLF's) internal leadership crisis."

In Malacanang, President Macapagal-Arroyo's spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao clarified that the raid was not directed at Misuri and was not an infringement on the peace agreement.

Tiglao said the target of the raid was Asmawi's shanty, which is located 100 meters away from Misuri's house.

He said the caretaker was suspected of selling guns and ammunition to the Abu Sayyaf.

Western Mindanao police commander Chief Supt. Simeon Dizon said Misuri could not have possibly owned the ammunition.

"Sariling kayad (This is the effort) of their caretaker who is involved in gunrunning," Dizon told the INQUIRER. "In fairness to Governor Misuri and his wife Turhan, I believe they are not aware of their caretaker's illegal activity."

## Disrespect

Madjilon told reporters in Cotabato City that Misuri was in Jolo, Sulu, at the time of the raid and that only his wife, their three children and two or three household help were at home when the police came.

"(The raiders) were suspecting that Governor Misuri, a ranking government official, could be supporting the Abu Sayyaf," Madjilon said, adding:

"This is a show of disrespect not only to Governor Misuri but also to the signed agreements on peace and cessation of hostilities."



of hostilities.

"Why raid the governor's house when they could have asked him for an ocular inspection, if they wanted to?"

The Associated Press quoted Gucella as saying that the raiding team did not enter Misuri's home.

Still, AP reported that Misuri aide Jamasali Abdurrahman described the raid as "a blatant violation" of the peace agreement and "a slap on the face of the MNLF."

Abdurrahman said he did not know the alleged gunrunner and denied that the ammunition was to supply the Abu Sayyaf, which he called an "enemy" of the MNLF.

According to Tiglao, Misuri and his wife probably did not know of Asmawi's gunrunning activities.

He said the police learned that the governor and his wife had not been using the house in the compound for some time.

"The police have no suspicion (that Misuri had something to do with gunrunning). Maybe he doesn't know that his caretaker had put one over him," Tiglao said.

Tiglao also aired the assurance that the raid was not politically motivated.

"We believe he should not worry that there is any move against him. This is a purely police operation properly secured by a search warrant, and the evidence is there," Tiglao said.

He also said the President's peace adviser Eduardo Arnaiz was trying to locate Misuri to explain the raid.

At a news conference yesterday afternoon, Justice Secretary Hernando Perez said he had not yet received official communication regarding the raid.

Perez said he had heard about the raid only from informal sources.

## No disarming

Under the 1996 peace agreement, the MNLF was not obliged to immediately lay down its arms.

It still has military style camps, although about 1,000 of its fighters have been integrated into the police and military.

Asmawi is not listed among those integrated fighters or as a member of Misuri's security detail, Tiglao said.

"With the volume of ammunition found there, it really looks like the shanty was being used as a gunrunning point," he said.

Tiglao dismissed a supposed statement made by Misuri's men that the raid had awakened a "sleeping giant."

"I'm afraid some of Misuri's assistants are prone to making exaggerated claims, which they later backtrack on," Tiglao said, adding:

"One assistant claimed they would declare an Islamic republic and afterwards Misuri denied he ever said that."

Despite the peace agreement, soldiers have clashed in recent weeks with MNLF members in Basilan, where 5,000 troops are hunting the Abu Sayyaf.

Earlier, the military said that the bandits had in the past fled into MNLF territory in Basilan to escape pursuing troops. Reports from Julie Alipala-Inat, Jonathan F. Ma, Alexander M. Young, Allan Naval, Charlie C. Señavez and Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau; Juliet L. Javellana and Cathy C. Yawsuan in Manila; AP

## Only 11 of 74 kiddie shows . . .

(From page A1)

myriad of negative effects, yet (it) can be fun and educational—if children watch the right programs, at appropriate times and with parents' involvement," said Terrel Hill, Unicef representative in the Philippines.

Among those which landed on Unicef's list of highly recommended programs were "Matinik," "Sineskela," "Pahina," "Hiraya Manawari," "Wansapanataym" and "Bayani," all of which are being aired by ABS-CBN.

Unicef also gave its approval on the multi-awarded "5 and Up," "Sesame Street" and "Balang Baibor" (GMA-7); "Animal Show" (ABC); and "Barney and Friends" (RPN).

The research was undertaken by Prof. Andres Sevilla of the UP College of Mass Communication and two of his students, Antonio Jesus Pagaduan and Deejay Cromwell Sanqui, from May to June last year.

The research also cited 13 other programs, which were considered appropriate for children, but were found to have "low production values and language accessibility."

"Just because a TV program is wholesome does not mean it has to be boring and dry," said the Parents Guide to Kiddie TV Viewing.

It said a program must capture and hold the attention of children, have varying paces, draw content from diverse sources, use sound and visual effects not harmful to children, and use ingenious and attractive props.

Bonus points were given to locally produced programs that use Filipino as their medium for instruction. Mexican telenovelas and Japanese cartoons got the researchers' disapproval.

## Dubbing creates confusion

"Foreign canned TV programs that are dubbed in the local language create confusion especially among young viewers," the Unicef TV guide said.

"Children can get the wrong impression of the compatibility of actual language use and the characters' physical features if they see foreign-looking actors speaking in Filipino . . . much more so when they see the mouth movements of the characters not matching the sound of the words spoken," the guide said.

These programs are "Open Sesame," "Koko Kwik Kwak" and "Chikiting Patrol" (GMA-7); "Peepen de Sarapen," "Sports 4 Kids" and "Beakman's World" (RPN-9); "Timmy the Tooth" and "Gumby" (ABC-5); "Pico Pico Pong" and "Smart Aleck," "Fun with Math," and "Sports Kids" (PTV-4); and, "Happy Kung Healthy" and "Yes 2 Kids" (IBC-13).

"Parents and kids can work together to maximize effective and useful television programs. Guiding children in their TV-viewing habits will ensure that children get the most out of television, while minimizing

any possible harmful effects," the guide said.

## Limit viewing

Still, Unicef reiterated the need to limit TV viewing to less than three hours daily.

High exposure to the black box has negative effects on children, which include health problems such as obesity and early alcohol and drug use, lower grades, poor reading skills and language development, and limited imagination or creativity, according to the guide.

Two episodes of each program were viewed and evaluated based on a criteria developed with the participation of the children themselves.

Among the criteria were appropriateness to children, promotion of positive values, absence of gratuitous sex and violence, visual appeal, use of appropriate language, cautious use and treatment of themes and issues, realism, parental involvement and justification for adult influence.

The programs were also evaluated on whether they invited active viewer participation and allowed feedback.

Aside from the list of recommended programs, the Unicef TV guide provides valuable information for parents, educators, media producers and other child caregivers.

It gave tips for maximizing TV, coping with TV commercials, choosing the right toys for children and working with household help to regulate TV use, and discussed the impact of entertainment violence on children.

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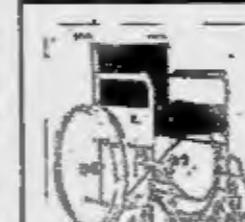
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## Crying wolf

PRESIDENT Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is trying her best to reach out to the *masa* that her deposed predecessor, Joseph Estrada, once held in thrall. Those visits to depressed communities, the "Gloria Labandera" gimmick and the more recent jobs for urban youth program are part of Ms Macapagal's makeover to "Até Glo," a President who cares

**EDITORIAL** for the poor as much as, if not even more than, Erap. And she seems to be succeeding, according to recent nationwide surveys showing her gaining greater acceptability approval among Estrada's constituency, especially the urban poor.

But can the poor reach out to her? That has never been easy, and it is getting tougher by the day. One of these days, in fact, no one may touch even the gates of Malacañang without receiving a shock—literally. Workers have wired the metal gates and fences around the Palace so that anyone who gets in contact with them will get an electric shock. It won't get anyone electrocuted, Presidential Spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said, but the voltage is strong enough to discourage anyone from climbing over the fence, which is what it is intended to do.

The new security measure was put in place soon after thousands of Estrada supporters stormed the gates of Malacañang last May 1 and almost took over the seat of power. The idea is to make it unnecessary for Palace security men to shoot down anti-government demonstrators who might scale the fence, Tiglao said.

Of course, the Palace must be defended and the safety of the President must be secured at all cost. But why do we get the feeling that paranoia has set in and a siege mentality has settled upon the administration? It is not only because of all those barbed wires scattered on the streets leading to Malacañang or those ugly containers ready for use as barricades (which are being replaced by metal gates). Rather it is because of so many scary announcements coming from Malacañang itself. In the last two months, we have heard top administration officials, including the President herself, warning about:

- Destabilization plots being hatched by opposition leaders as well as police and military officers loyal to Estrada.

- Massive urban poor demonstrations during Estrada's arraignment on charges of plunder, perjury and other crimes.

- An Abu Sayyaf plot to bomb parts of Metro Manila.

- The arrival of a hitman sent by international terrorist Osama bin Laden to bomb Israeli and American installations.

Not that we would rather that the administration was proven right about these warnings, but what were all these dire disclosures for? We know Ms Macapagal promised transparency in government transactions, but this is carrying candor too far.

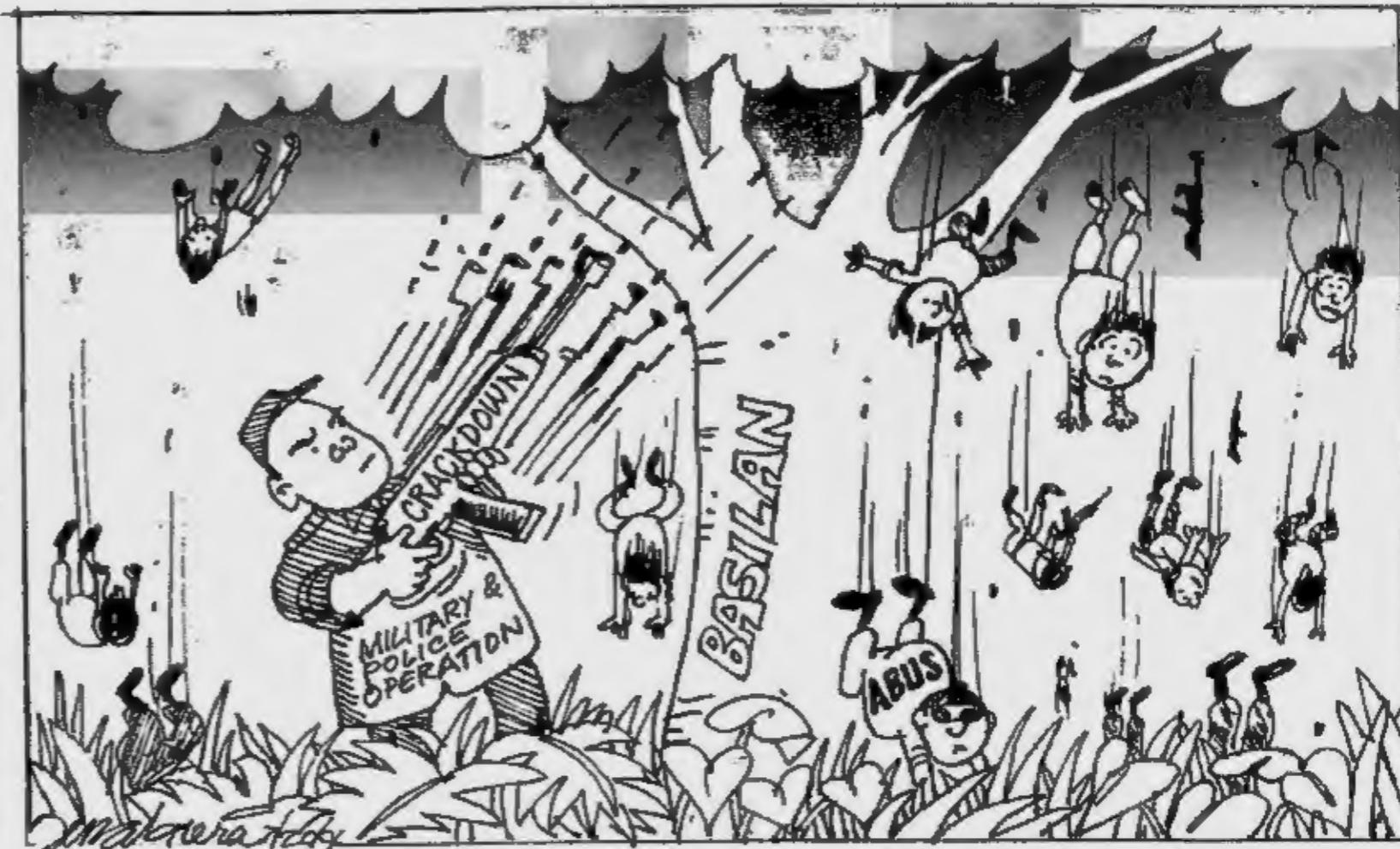
If all that the administration wanted was to warn the plotters by signaling that the authorities knew what they were up to, there are other effective ways of doing so. Better still, the authorities should have simply rounded them up and put them behind bars. In going public with these scary scenarios, what the administration has achieved is to make an already worried people more fearful and insecure. Ordinary people can't feel secure in their homes when officials around the President think she isn't completely safe unless she is cloistered in the Palace.

Fear, whether real or imagined, can immobilize people. This is one of the reasons things aren't moving in this country. Already tourists aren't coming for fear of being kidnapped. Falling economic indicators are making businessmen wary of expansion or going into new ventures. And the government isn't helping ease the worries and apprehensions by revealing destabilization plots and potential violence.

The last time the boy cried wolf, nobody listened. When the administration cries wolf everybody listens and feels scared. Both times the result has been disaster.

## OPINION

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## Secretary Roxas, don't be fooled by cement cartel

ATTENTION President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and Housing Secretary Michael Defensor: Your poverty alleviation program and low-cost housing plan will both go bust if Trade Secretary Mar Roxas succumbs to pressure from or is fooled by the foreign-owned cement cartel to raise the tariff on imported cement. The price of cement, imported or not, will surely shoot up and the cost of housing units for the poor will also shoot up. Up to 70 percent of the cost of mass housing units is for cement. The cost of government infrastructure projects such as roads, bridges and schools, will also rise and contracts with private contractors will have to be adjusted upwards.

Even if Roxas plays cute and passes the buck to the Tariff Commission "for study," the price of cement, now at P134 per bag, will immediately go up to P200 per bag because the Bureau of Import Services (BIS) shall impose a deposit from the importers equal to the 50-percent tariff requested while the case is being heard.

The cement cartel, composed of three of the biggest foreign cement companies in the world and which now monopolizes the Philippine cement industry, has been lobbying the DTI for alleged "safeguards" to protect it from foreign competition.

These safeguards, as proposed by the Philippine Cement Manufacturer's Corp. (Philecmcor), will take the form of:

1. A 50 percent tariff on imported cement on top of the present 5 percent.

2. An import quota of 173,444 bags this year, increasing at the rate of 5 percent each year for the next three years.

The Philippine Contractors Association (PCA) is opposing it "because it would increase the cost of construction and this would eventually result in economic upheaval, political unrest and serious injury not only to the construction industry but to the government and the public in general." The most badly hit would be the government's bridge and road projects and its mass housing program, the PCA said. Up to 70 percent of the cost of low-cost housing units is in the form of cement. Vertical construction (meaning tall buildings) goes to cement; the biggest expense is for steel and finishing materials.

The contractors, since most of them construct buildings, and are paid on percentage of the total cost, would

### AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

not be hurt as badly as the public. If the cost of a construction goes up because of higher prices of cement, the contractors would get a bigger share because they earn on percentage basis.

But the most badly hurt would be the poor and the middle class: their homes would cost more; most of them may not be able to afford a home anymore. Hence, the Filipino masses would be adversely affected by a wrong or selfish decision by Roxas.

All for what? So that the cement cartel, all members of whom are foreign-owned, will continue to monopolize the local cement industry, manipulate prices and squeeze the blood out of Filipino consumers. The Philecmcor claims that the cement imports have seriously hurt it and that it may close down and throw workers out of jobs. It also claims that the demand for local cement dropped significantly because of the imports.

A big lie. An analysis of the data submitted by the Philecmcor revealed that at the current price of P134 per bag, its net profit amounted to P9 billion. Even after deducting its claimed deficits of P4.8 billion, it is still left with a profit of P5.2 billion. And imported cement is only 10 percent of the local supply.

Data from 1998 to 2000 show that prices of local cement continued to rise from an average of P45 per bag in the last quarter of 1998 to P118 in the first quarter of 2000. To stabilize prices, the PCA intervened by encouraging importation. With imported cement in the market, the prices of local cement stabilized at P100 per bag although there were gradual increases. The price of local cement is now P134 per bag.

Importation is being resorted to only to stabilize the prices of local manufacturers who take advantage of Filipino consumers. While the cement cartel is selling its cement locally at P134 per bag, it is exporting the same cement at an average of US\$20 per metric

ton, or P35 per bag. If the local manufacturers are exporting the same quality of cement at a very low price, why can't they sell cement to Filipino consumers at the same price and avert importation? The cement is mined and processed here, but Filipinos are made to pay more than those in other, more affluent countries.

The reason is that the cement cartel is dumping its cement in other countries, the same crime that it accuses its competitors of committing.

That's not all. Local manufacturers and some importers have conspired to cheat the government and the Filipino consumers. In one case, the importers of Taiwan cement will be supplied with cement by a local manufacturer at the landed cost of imported cement. The importer will then put it in bags of a Taiwan cement company and will pass it off as "imported." The importer makes the same profit and the local manufacturer increases its sales.

In the second case, an importer of Japanese cement puts the product in bags of a local cement company and sells it at the higher price of local cement. He makes a bigger profit and the price of the local cement is not undercut.

Here's another dirty trick. Contractors in the Visayas were able to buy cement from an Indonesian company at P90 a bag duty-free. The Indonesian company was approached by a member of the cartel and it offered to buy the company. That's what they did to control the Philippine cement industry. Local cement companies were all Filipino-owned until cartel members started buying them out. The first to sell out was Rizal Cement four years ago. At that time, cement was at P90 a bag. The demand for cement was going down because of lack of construction projects. The price of cement went down to P70 a bag. The giant foreign company could reduce prices here because they were making billions around the world. All of a sudden, Apo Cement was sold when the price was at P70. When Apo went into production, cement price was reduced to P60 a bag. All the other cement companies started losing money. And lo and behold, except for Northern Cement, all the Filipino-owned cement companies were swallowed by the foreign giants. Now that they control the market, cement prices are going up. But the unkindest cut is that the remaining Filipino company is following the high prices of the foreign cartel.

## Rediscovered prayer

### WINDMILLS

Jerry Barican

pen? O, and did He cry?

In the fulsome pride of young adulthood, I may have been once embarrassed by the memory. But no longer. The poem was a gentle gift of faith to a parched soul. It was the night I rediscovered the rosary I had left untouched since youth and the night I resumed through it, after long lost years, the conversation I had held with Our Lady when I was a child.

Throughout adulthood, I would find prayers hidden away in many secular places. As I read Taylor Caldwell's telling of the life of St. Luke, "Dear and Glorious Physician," I came across the Magnificat. I watched the movie "The Cardinal" and was haunted by the theme song which begins "Should my heart not be humble, should my eyes fail to see, should my feet sometimes stumble on the way, stay with me."

I went through Arthur Hailey's novel on the banking system, "The Moneychangers." One character in an act of desperation prays the Memorare of St. Bernard of Clairvaux: "Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother..." And speaking to the Virgin is only a waystop. Our final destination lies beyond.

There is something both joyous and embarrassing about recounting all this. But the embarrassment does not lie as it once did in talking about the spiritual content. Rather, prayer has always been a very private thing to me, something I have been more comfortable with when

alone. I have always remembered the Publican who knelt behind at the Temple acknowledging his sins while he humbly begged the Lord for forgiveness. Heaven knows I have more sins than the Publican.

But there is also the sin of pride. It is difficult to bare your soul to your brethren publicly. I am likewise careful of the lessons of history, of how faith has been perverted towards unworthy ends, of how mass hysteria produced the Spanish Inquisition and the witch burnings in Salem, of how intolerance forced Galileo to recant, and of the embezzled wealth of false prophets and hucksters. If we do not take care, the devil can produce evil from good. Finally, I am awed by the simple faith of others and am wary to judge the individual soul, my own excepted. So I prefer the solitary prayer.

Still, whether in the silence of meditation or in communal aspiration, what a wonderful thing prayer is, especially the sweet ones of our childhood. I listen with thirsty ear for the Prayer of St. Francis: "For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

St. Ignatius of Loyola's prayer anticipates the words of the "Impossible Dream" by five centuries: "Teach us Lord to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek rest; to labor and not ask for any reward..." Lovely Lady dressed in blue, teach me how to pray.

These longings constitute what we want to be, not what we are. Our prayers are always too advanced of our human frailties. Still, there is a place for defining our aspirations, even amidst the daily humdrum of life. In times of trouble, prayer lifts our spirits. In times of celebration, it permits us to give thanks. In times of need, it brings us together and provides us hope. It teaches patience, forbearance, kindness, mercy, justice and love. It reminds us of who we are, why we are here, where we came from and where we are going. Twenty centuries after Christ's birth, we are all still learning how to pray.

## The gloom in the MBC survey

**ANALYSIS**

Amando Doronila



THE MAKATI Business Club released on Wednesday its business outlook survey covering the first half of 2001 and of the Macapagal administration. The survey unveiled a horizon of gloom that erased the euphoric outlook generated by the change of government on Jan. 20.

The grim outlook came in the run-up to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's first State of the Nation Address (Sona) on Monday, at which she is expected to announce initiatives intended to unlock the dynamo of economic recovery. The address is set against the larger background of the Argentinian economic meltdown or Latin American syndrome, the growth slowdown of the industrial economies and, more significantly, the contraction of Singapore's economy, which is one of the strongest economies in Southeast Asia.

The MBC's survey reveals as much about the attitudes and mood of big business as it does the shortfalls of the Macapagal administration. One of the highlights of the survey is that 71 percent of business executives expect the GDP growth this year to be lower than last year's 4 percent. In stark contrast, an MBC survey conducted in January showed that 65.9 percent expected growth to be higher than last year's. The outlook was, however, dimmer under deposed President Estrada. In a survey during the last two weeks of his administration, 85.3 percent expected growth to be worse than that in 2001.

Other highlights are (1) 83.4 percent expect further depreciation of the peso exchange rate against the US dollar; (2) 78.1 percent expect inflation rate to rise (it's now 6.7 percent, from 4.4 percent in 2000). The majority of executives expect investments, exports and imports to be lower this year than those of last year, a complete reversal of their expectations in January. Two-thirds expect investments to decline in 2001. In January, 81.7 percent expected investment to increase.

A message to the Macapagal administration is that 54.3 percent indicated that the government's economic agenda was not clear to them. This finding reflects either a communication failure on the part of the administration or lack of an agenda.

The survey, however, fails to explain the cause of the evaporation of the euphoria flowing from

the January transfer of power. The drastic change in outlook stands against the findings recognizing positive developments since President Macapagal took office. These positive signs recognize measures on good governance (21.8 percent); restoration of business confidence, credible leadership and competence and good work ethic of key government officials (19.9 percent each).

During the last months of the Estrada administration, the MBC pointed to bad governance and corruption as the main causes of the plunge of confidence in Estrada's presidency. Now that the businessmen concede an improvement of governance, honesty in government and competence and work ethic, that change does not seem enough to make them optimistic. Sometimes, we don't know what will make them happy.

The businessmen have shifting standards in measuring what deserves their confidence. They have pinpointed peace and order as the most important issue that should be resolved in the next six months. An unprecedented 100 percent cited this issue. Their basis is the Abu Sayyaf abduction at Das Palmas and their perception that holdups and kidnappings have increased in Metro Manila.

In the first week of July, the Business Confidence Index was reported to have plunged 18 index points to 94.1 index points in June. The June BCI pulled the BCI below the 100-point benchmark for the first time this year—during the Macapagal administration.

The MBC and the Employers Confederation of the Philippines were quick to blame the government's perceived incapacity to bring to an end the Abu Sayyaf abduction and the Manila kidnaps. MBC executive director Guillermo Luz said: "The government has got to do a lot more. We need to see action, not state-

ments. Part of the problem is really confidence, not economic considerations."

Once the Abu Sayyaf is neutralized and the kidnap gangs are sent on the run, it is not certain whether the Makati big businesses will find another reason to explain why they are pessimistic about the economic outlook. It's hard to please them. We have heard often enough—to the point of being repetitive—that government has the responsibility of creating a political and economic environment which gives private business the incentives to do business.

That may be true, but big businesses might find it useful to examine themselves if they continue to be afflicted by the protectionist syndrome—i.e., they expect government to offer incentives on a golden tray—before they loosen their purse strings. Big business often likes to make us believe it is the engine of Filipino capitalism, but it would seem that it can't shed the greenhouse syndrome that has afflicted its mentality deriving from the protectionism of the 1960s. For example, the Filipino contractors have complained that stiff international standards on bidding for infrastructure are putting them at a disadvantage against foreign bidders.

Well, if they can't be competitive, why stay in business? The public pays heavily for subsidizing non-competitive companies through protectionist measures. The public gets defective infrastructure.

The symptoms of Filipino business wanting to be pampered by government are still abundant in the third millennium.

One silver lining in the MBC survey is that among the country's public institutions, the Supreme Court has maintained its No. 1 ranking of satisfaction from the business executives. In January, during the last three weeks of Estrada's presidency, its satisfaction rating peaked at 71.5 percent, in the aftermath of the impeachment trial. In July, the net rating went down to 53 percent. Its rating was obviously dragged down by the dissipation of the January euphoria which raised unrealistic expectations that the removal of Estrada would also translate into quick fixes in the economy and law and order.

Still, several escaped, and when details of the atrocity reached US Army intelligence, a secret raid was mounted to rescue prisoners at Cabanatuan, the largest camp ever established for US POWs on foreign soil.

The 513 prisoners at Cabanatuan were the last of the 22,000 Americans who had surrendered—along with 70,000 Filipino troops—three years earlier after the fall of Bataan and Corregidor. Many of the 513 had been on the infamous Bataan death march in 1942, when 750 Americans died from starvation, disease or outright murder while tramping 75 miles to captivity.

Of those 22,000 Americans POWs, 10,650 were dead three years later. At Cabanatuan were the dregs of the prison population, too sick and weak to be shipped to Japan or elsewhere in the empire to work as stevedores or coal miners.

In addition to telling of the inhumane treatment, Sides fair-mindedly explores the Japanese mentality that led to such cruelty.

In Japan, he explains, a soldier who surrendered lost all honor and shamed his family, and this belief underpinned the brutal treatment of Allied prisoners, who too were seen to be without honor. And in the Japanese Army, beatings were a method of discipline, and when the lowest enlisted man suddenly found himself a superior among helpless prisoners, the temptation to brutalize them proved irresistible.

These atrocities occurred despite instructions from Lt. Gen. Masaharu Homma, the Japanese officer in charge of The Philippines, to handle the Americans and Filipinos captives "with a friendly spirit" in accordance with the Geneva Convention. Yet Homma was convicted and executed as "The Beast of Bataan" after the war for his army's butchery.

Sides spent several days as the guest in Japan of Masahiko Homma, the general's son, reading the general's war correspondence and journal. He feels ambivalent, he said, about the general's guilt.

Reuters

and Chinese Ceramic Wares found in the Philippines (800 typed pages plus 200 plates) and a fairly complete review of Philippine archaeology to 1940, listing practically all important sites. He published an Outline Review of Philippine archaeology but the work on ceramics has yet to be uncovered. I have a copy of a 1930s typescript on ceramics by Beyer that only runs to 300 pages. Where is the rest?

In 1953, Beyer was advised to retire from active teaching in UP and assume emeritus status and it was then that he started to worry about the fate of all his collections. His friend, E.D. Hester, was able to get funding to catalogue the Beyer collection, but Beyer did not cooperate. Hester describes the collection as follows:

"Beyer's collections of neoliths, fossils, ceramic shards and whole pieces, tektites and library—which run in total to between a quarter and a half million items—are stored in trays (in some instances stacked nearly to the 15-foot ceiling) boxes and cases in the Museum and Institute of Ethnography and Archaeology on the second floor of the government-owned Watson building, a nearly fire-proof structure at 1668 Calle Aviles, S. Miguel District, Manila. I estimated that not over 15 percent of the collections, including none of the tektites, are catalogued by piece. However, the lot numbers refer to the field notes which are well kept and show provenance, date of acquisition and usually the cost of the lot."

The Beyer papers are probably in the National Library of Australia, but where are the prehistoric artifacts? Much was dispersed after his death, but I presume part of the collection is intact in UP and can be studied. If the War had not intervened, perhaps we would have a clearer picture of Philippine prehistory than we have now.

\* \* \*

Comments are welcome at amber@adm.edu.ph

## State of the nation's population growth

**COMMENTARY**Anna Marie A. Karaos  
Institute on Church and Social Issues

ONE aspect of the state of the nation that never receives enough attention in any State of the Nation Address (Sona), maybe because presidents know of its political perils, is the growth of our population. Yet any economist will tell you that it is one of the most important variables affecting both economic growth and society's capacity to improve the living conditions of the people, particularly the poor. In the context of a poor country like ours, a government that professes to make poverty reduction a primary goal cannot avoid coming to terms with this difficult problem.

For it is a problem. Even though there are those who argue that the bigger problem is inequality or the fact that wealth and economic opportunities are not equitably distributed, a rapidly growing population still poses a serious impediment to efforts to redistribute resources and curb poverty. This year our gross domestic product is expected to grow by a modest 2.6 percent. Consider this against our population growth rate which stands at 2.3 percent. This means that any growth that we manage to achieve will only go toward supporting the needs of the additional population. The Macapagal administration will not admit it but with the slowdown in the global economy which is not likely to see a reversal until next year and the Philippines' own domestic problems, the country is not likely to experience a recovery within the next three years. If we can manage no better than a 3-percent annual growth rate within that time, we are really treading a no-growth path with a diminished capacity to reduce poverty significantly.

Those who would prefer to avoid looking at the population scenario would argue for better economic management and a more aggressive anti-poverty strategy as the solution to our economic development woes. But if we are looking toward not just making a recovery now but also sustaining a rate of growth that will allow real improvements in education, health and housing over time, something we have not seen in the last three decades, we need to support sound economic management and anti-poverty programs with a sensible population policy.

It is understandable that some sectors, including the Catholic Church, would be disturbed by any mention of a population policy. It is true that many countries have gradually reduced their population growth over time as their economies developed. It is a known fact that the more developed countries tend to have very low population growth rates, mainly because of increased economic opportunities for women. So even without a deliberate population policy, growth rates eventually go down as a consequence of economic development.

But this way of proceeding in reducing population growth may not be realistically available to the Philippines given a number of factors: the very slow economic growth at present and in the foreseeable future, the high population base that we already have, the high rate of depletion of our natural resources and the poor record of the state in enforcing redistributive measures, such as land reform, to expand economic opportunities for the benefit of the poor. While reducing population growth is imperative, it does not absolve government from the more critical task of regulating the exploitation of our natural resources and redistributing productive assets and economic opportunities. A population program cannot substitute for a thoroughgoing asset reform program. Managing population growth is not to satisfy the economic planners but to improve the living standards of Filipino households, especially the poor who rely most on government-provided services. Smaller families require less to support their requirements for food, clothing, shelter, health and education. With health and education better ensured, family members are likely to be more economically productive.

So granting that we agree on the need to reduce population growth, what is a sensible population policy? The first step, it seems to me, is to allow a free and extensive public discussion on the issue. Let the different sectors recognize it as a problem, grapple with it and propose solutions. Let the best minds from the fields of economics, sociology, psychology, ethics, moral theology, medicine and the sciences enlighten us on the alternatives we have and the consequences of each alternative. In this effort of educating ourselves on the issue, it is not only government which must be active in disseminating information but also private groups, NGOs and civic organizations including church-based ones.

The second step is for the government to fashion a population program aimed at education and promoting access to family planning technologies. In this approach, education, rather than the specific methods themselves, should be the main thrust. No one must be forced to adopt family planning or any particular method. But access should be provided to those who opt to use them. When people are well informed, it is hoped that they will choose the method most appropriate to their personal circumstances and convictions.

When Malthus first warned us of the catastrophic consequences of uncontrolled population growth, he failed to foresee the scientific and economic advances that would revolutionize production in the following centuries allowing humankind to forestall his dire predictions. But as we move into the 21st century, we find that the effects of population pressure are already being felt especially by the very poor who have no access to clean water, adequate food and safe shelter. To be sure, population growth is not the only problem. But even as we try to refashion our economic systems to make them more equitable and sustainable, we better find a way to also help ourselves take care of those who get born into this planet.

**THEY SAID****Senate glue**

"The dynamics in the Senate is that party affiliation is not as important as closeness among individual senators and unity of individual blocs based on common interests."

—Sen. Edgardo Angara

**Special talent**

"You may be a good advocate to argue cases, but defending a criminal case takes another talent."

—Sen. Aquilino Pimentel on the ability of former Justice Secretary Seraphin Cuevas to defend former President Joseph Estrada

**Crumbs, not living wages**

"At most, we will only get crumbs from the regional wage boards."

—Arrelio Bosque of the Kilusang Mayo Uno in Pasay

**Badder news**

"We can't have more bad news on top of what we already have."

—Federation of Philippine Industries chair Raul Concepcion

**Another chance**

"This bill seeks to give spouses who are shackled by a irretrievably broken marriage the freedom to remarry and possibly succeed in attaining a stable and fulfilling family life."

—Aurora Rep. Bellaflor Angara-Castillo on the divorce bill

## New book about WWII atrocities offered to Japan

**FEATURE**

Philip Barbara

by its army, and nationalists and bureaucrats who seek to protect the national psyche, and especially schoolchildren, from bruising revelations.

In early July, Japan refused to revise a history textbook that the South Korean and Chinese governments said whitewashed Tokyo's wartime atrocities. And in the Japanese version of the Walt Disney Co. film "Pearl Harbor," racial epithets and quotes by US soldiers deemed too cocky for the war's losers were deleted.

In 1997, Iris Chang's acclaimed book "The Rape of Nanking," a scathing account of the Imperial Japanese Army's invasion of China in 1937, did not appear in Japan. A prospective publisher there requested several changes but Chang declined to make them.

Chang, who praises "Ghost Soldiers" on the dust jacket, told Reuters that Japanese publishers are intimidated from releasing critical books.

"I think the right-wing assaults on the Japanese publishing houses have sent a chill across the entire industry," she said in an e-mail exchange, noting a May 1999 incident in which a fanatic wielding baseball bat trashed the offices of a publisher who had printed the diary of a Japanese veteran of the Nanking massacre.

As "Ghost Soldiers" shows, massacres occurred in the Philippines, too. The book graphically details how in December 1944, the Japanese ordered 150 Americans at a small POW camp into cramped air raid pits, sloshed aviation fuel into the pits and set the huddled men ablaze. Those who staggered out were bayoneted, beheaded or shot.

The lightning raid succeeded brilliantly, with the loss of only two of the 151 rangers and no prisoners.

Within three weeks of publication the book shot to No. 2 on The New York Times bestseller list and remains near the top. It also quickly received publishing rights in Germany, Italy, Korea and the United Kingdom.

But in Japan, where it is being reviewed by several publishers, it has been rejected by one that said—in an elliptical way, according to Sides—that it sensed an uncertain market for the book.

Sides is confident another firm will print it.

"I think it's important for the book to be published in Japan, and I think it will, though it may not be widely read," he said in an interview. "It's a cruel and gruesome book and the Japanese don't look particularly good...so as popular entertainment I don't think it will sell in huge numbers. But maybe I'm wrong."

There is a very public tug-of-war in Japan today between intellectuals and internationalists who want Japan to own up to savage incidents

that happened during the war.

UNIMAGINABLE is the only word I can use to describe the wholesale destruction of Philippine cultural treasures during World War II. The National Library, National Archives, National Museum and even the University of the Philippines library were all destroyed—and whatever materials survived were kept elsewhere. For example, the Rizal manuscripts were reportedly kept in a steel vault in the Manila City Hall. If these were in the library, the present National Museum building, these would have been lost. Many private collections were also dispersed due to the Battle for Manila in 1945 or the looting that accompanied it. Looking at the pictures in the Zoilo Galang "Encyclopedia of the Philippines" makes me wonder whether all the unlocated pieces of art were actually destroyed. Were some pieces looted to surface one of these days?

Researching on archaeological finds in the contested Jardin Botanico area in downtown Manila, I had to go through the writings of the pioneering anthropologist, H. Orley Beyer, whose papers and library are now in the National Library of Australia. Why the Philippine government did not raise funds to match the Australian offer and keep the Beyer papers in the country is another question useless to answer today. Beyer was a compulsive but systematic collector who specialized in anything and everything on the Philippines—books, maps, prints and manuscripts. You name it, he had it. Although he did not invest time and money on art like paintings, sculpture, *santo*, the much-prized objects of desire of today's collectors. Instead, Beyer built a collection of Philippine archaeological and anthropological artifacts whose number staggers the imagination.

Prior to 1925, Beyer collected materials for the

University of the Philippines Anthropology Department, the National Museum, as well as his own personal collection. In time nobody seemed to know,

except Beyer of course, which items were owned by the government and which were Beyer's personal property as he often bought items from his

own funds and got reimbursed later. For example, his archaeological survey of Rizal province resulted in five years of collecting that yielded over 200,000 catalogued specimens housed in four rented bodegas on Nebraska Street in Manila. The uncatalogued items were surely much more. All expenses were advanced by Beyer.

From 1932-1937, Beyer was busy excavating archaeological sites in Batangas raising his collection to half a million specimens! During the war, Beyer befriended a Japanese anthropologist who secured his collection against looting by the Japanese soldiers and Beyer, an American citizen, was allowed to continue his work unhampered until the close of the war when he was imprisoned in the University of Santo Tomas. Despite the destruction of the war and the Battle for Manila, Beyer was able to recover a portion of his collection. 500,000 archaeological specimens he classified as follows: Paleolithic and Mesolithic, 10 percent; Neolithic (Early, 5 percent; Middle and Late, 18 percent), 23 percent; Bronze and Copper Age, 2 percent; Prehistoric Iron Age, 20 percent; Pre-Spanish Porcelain Age, 35 percent; Spanish Period and Historical Age, 10 percent.

His surviving manuscripts were 60 ms on Philippine archaeology in 6 volumes; Philippine tektites, 25 ms in 2 volumes; Batangas Archeological Survey, 30 ms in 10 volumes; Pugad Babuy Catalogue, 20 ms in 8 volumes. Before the war, Beyer had completed a two-volume work on Southeast Asian



Ambeth R. Ocampo

## Escape hatches

A FOREIGNER asked me recently how it was possible that the elite of this country could not see that it would be in their interest to part with at least some of their wealth to ease the gap between rich and poor. Surely, he said, they must realize the chasm between rich and poor in this country is awesome, which is the one thing that is roiling the magma in the social volcano, and constantly pushing it up its throat. Threatening to spit it out anytime.

I said I could think of three reasons why the elite could not care less about the gap between rich and poor, and why they would find it unthinkable to part with even an iota of their wealth to prevent the social volcano from exploding.

The first is that it is never easy for people who are used to privilege to see what lies out there. Privilege is a formidable insulator. It is not easy to smell the smog or the stench of the pavement when you are sailing by potholed roads in an air-conditioned Mercedes-Benz. You know there's a rotten world out there, but you have no sense impressions to go with that abstract concept. The poor are not easy to see for most of us, even if they are all around us. It is even less so for the privileged few.

Looking back, it seems almost impossible to believe how France's aristocratic class could not see an impending revolution in 1789. And France's condition at that time, incredibly enough, is not unlike the one we have in the country right now. The same spectacular divide between rich and poor is there, not least in Metro Manila. Somebody told me recently the population here can now reach up to 15 million, half of whom are squatters: that

**THERE'S THE RUB**

Conrado de Quiros

is a veritable powder keg. That spectacular divide is characterized by a wasteful few that enjoy the most unbelievable privileges—you read about it in the society pages—and a teeming poor that endure even more unbelievable deprivations—you see it in Payatas.

Why did France's aristocratic few refuse to part with some of their jewels, lands and presumed God-given rights to save themselves? Because they knew no better. Enlightened self-interest is the hardest thing to see—it is often a contradiction in terms. The result in the case of Marie Antoinette et al. of course being that they parted with their heads instead, courtesy of M. Guillotine's famous invention.

The same is true on a global scale today. The same spectacular divide exists between a privileged few, which are the North countries, and deprived many, which are the South countries. You have one-fourth of the earth's population using up three-fourths of the world's wealth, you know you have a problem. That is a veritable powder keg. Yet none of the American and European banks can think to condone some of the loans they gave out to the poorest of the poor. Famous personalities have joined the campaign for debt condonation, like Muhammad Ali and Sting, but so far, nothing. The repayment of those loans won't make the banks richer—they've more than gotten back their money in interest payments—but they won't let go. And yet they feel free to lecture others on the virtues of

enlightened self-interest.

The second reason is more unique to the Philippines, which is that the Filipino elite, quite unlike their other Asian counterparts, feel no great stake in their country. Other Asian elites invest in their country and resolve to make the economy grow because that is the country they want to live in. Not so our elite. Their children study abroad and work abroad. They themselves buy houses abroad, invest abroad, and put their savings abroad. Notably in San Francisco, where they left their hearts in, or in other parts of the East and West Coast. It is not that they do not want to invest here, it is that they do not want to invest in this country's future. They are ready to pull out anytime, having prepared for a life abroad, when things get rough.

You have an attitude like that, you will not wish to part with an iota of your wealth to defuse an impending explosion. On the contrary, you will want to hang on to every iota of your wealth, the better for you to start anew elsewhere. Though probably exaggerated, our situation is not unlike that of Cuba before Fidel Castro and Che Guevara drove the Cuban elite to Miami. At least in the sense of having a carpet-bagging and frivolous elite, with their huge suitcases all packed up and waiting to be delivered to the airport, at the first sign of gunfire. The country is not a permanent home, it is a temporary inconvenience. The only difference in this comparison being that the possibility of a Castro and Guevara taking over the country has become a most unlikely one. But "Edsa III" and its ensuing riots are writing on the wall.

There is one last reason why the elite would not think to part with their wealth to prevent an explosion of the social volcano, though it is probably a derivative one. It is the belief that you can always "enlarge

the pie," which is the hallmark of the International Monetary Fund-World Bank prescriptions and the cornerstone of the philosophy of what passes for "globalization" today. I say what passes because it is globalization that compels capital and goods to freely cross borders but not people: immigration laws remain formidable barriers to labor movement. But that is another story. You are blinded by privilege and have an escape hatch abroad, it is so easy to beguile yourself into believing the pie can always be enlarged, which precludes the need for distributive justice. You get a philosophical justification for what you want to do in the first place, which is to hoard.

What makes that philosophy curious is that the pie is never sufficiently enlarged. During good times, the poor stand last in the waiting line. The workers who are asking for higher wages and the farmers who are asking for cheaper inputs are told to wait because the pie is still too small to be cut up. During bad times, the poor stand first in the belt-tightening or austerity measures. That is so because to make the rich sacrifice as well would presumably be to close down factories and make people jobless. So when will the poor get their due? Only God and government know. And God has been known to don the robes of the elite in this country.

Mayon has been spewing violently over the last 10 years, which has pretty much wrecked its perfect cone. I don't know that the state of our Nature isn't telling us something about the state of our Society.

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Comments are welcome at dequiros@asia.com

## CARP in landowners' eyes

**LETTERS**

IN THE DESIRE to be popular, government has continued to perpetuate a fantasy that is beyond its capacity to fulfill. Thus, it has pledged a family-size farm to every landless farmer. Yet, it is aware that there is not enough land to fulfill that promise.

Despite the magnitude of the area already covered by land reform, the remaining area is insufficient to complete the program, in light of the growing population. Our population growth rate at 2.3 percent per year or 1.3 million per annum, is the highest in the region and results in a higher population density per area than China. Furthermore, the area already distributed far exceeds any other program worldwide without any assurance of success. The Department of Agrarian Reform claims to have distributed a total of 4.6 million hectares out of our total arable lands of 8.5 million hectares, which is the biggest land reform program worldwide. Out of 33 countries that have adopted agrarian reform, only three countries succeeded and with much smaller areas. These are Taiwan which covered only 400,000 hectares; Korea, 600,000 hectares; and Japan, 1.9 million hectares. Nonetheless, the DAR is poised to distribute an additional 1.4 million hectares of government land, despite the uncertainty of success as well as the growing concerns of non-payment of landowners, slow distribution and lack of support facilities.

On the other hand, landowners have been forced to assume the burden of the program that has taken

## Greater productivity before higher wages

WE Filipinos demand too much, yet what we have is wanting.

I have nothing against those who are calling for an increase in our workers' wages. This increase will mean more money for their families and for their household consumption. But what we must also have is a call for an increase in production.

We do not need to study economics to know that we cannot get something from nothing or more from less.

If we must increase the income from wages, we must first increase the production of our society's economic enterprises. We need to focus our attention toward our factors of production. Our government must take consideration of these factors of production. From the consideration of our human and natural resources,

## Wrong values being imparted to kids

RESPECT for human life, the most basic of human rights, is a reality which parents have to inculcate in their kids early in life.

Through parental example, kids have to see what loving one's neighbor means and that hating people is inhuman. At the right age, they have to understand the evils of abortion and contraception; the immorality of pre-marital and extramarital sex, self-abuse and pornography.

Life is so short. And there's a heaven and a hell after life. Believe it or not!—DODIE DANZ DEL RIO, lifewatch33@yahoo.com

## House media personnel work overtime

I AM writing to correct the misimpression created by your news story, "Employees get OT even with House closed." (PDI, 7/12/01)

The payment of overtime to House media employees is legal and aboveboard. Overtime work is part and parcel of media relations work. Although the reported overtime was listed for the payroll of the month of May, this amount covered a period of three months prior to May. These overtime payments have not yet been released to them up to now.

While there are no sessions, the House is not closed but is only on recess and employees report for work regularly.

House media employees are on call, even after working hours, by

## Hotel commends MMDA traffic group

ON BEHALF of The Heritage Hotel Manila, I would like to thank the Traffic Enforcers Group of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) for its fast action in preventing vehicles from obstructing the Edsa Extension near the corner of Roxas Boulevard in Pasay City, thus easing the flow of traffic.

The group of Senior Supt. Vicente T. Raval Jr., Senior Insp. Roland Lopez, Supt. Enercito V. Ubales and their traffic enforcers

immediately responded when the hotel sought their assistance.

People frequenting the hotel and going to places nearby express their gratitude to this group. They are requesting the MMDA to continue implementing this efficient traffic control system for the sake of commuters who had to put up with monstrous traffic jams before.—JOSEPH KONG, general manager, The Heritage Hotel Manila, Roxas Boulevard, corner Edsa, Pasay City

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# The WORLD

LUVERNE B. GUECO, EDITOR

## MPs warn clock ticking for Wahid



PROTESTERS run away as police fire tear gas and rubber bullets during a protest march outside Colombo. AP

### Sri Lankan killed as cops break up Colombo march

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka—Police used batons, tear gas and rubber bullets to block tens of thousands of people from marching into the capital Wednesday to protest against the suspension of parliament.

At least one protester was killed, bleeding to death from what appeared to be a rubber bullet wound, and 27 injured suffered injuries from police truncheons and rubber bullets, said doctors at the city's two largest hospitals said.

The main opposition United National Party had said it would send 100,000 protesters into the streets to cripple the capital in a protest against President Chandrika Kumaratunga's suspension of parliament on July 11. She took the action hours after the opposition gathered enough support for a no-confidence vote.

"We are doing this to protect democracy," said Ravi Karunayake, an opposition lawmaker, leading a group of marchers. "We want to send a message to the government that the people of Sri Lanka hold their democratic rights very dearly."

Soldiers with Uzi machine pistols stood guard at intersections to help the police after a crowd of 3,000 surged through a cordon. Po-

lice had blockaded all entrances to the city center with jeeps and buses, saying they would not allow the opposition march to "disrupt life in Colombo."

But most offices were empty, as the few commuters who had gotten to work were sent home by their employers, and parents kept their children home from school.

"Police shot tear gas and rubber bullets at me and I fear for my safety," Ranil Wickremesinghe, the leader of the main United National Party leader said. His bodyguards bundled him into a jeep and drove him away.

Using emergency laws designed to combat an 18-year guerrilla war, police declared they would arrest anyone who tried to demonstrate.

"We are under instruction not to allow anyone to disrupt life in Colombo and we are going to do that," said police spokesperson Renzio Perera. He said police had been told to use only tear gas and rubber bullets, not live ammunition. Through loudspeakers, officers urged the crowds not to try to enter the city.

"This is a real warning. We don't want any trouble and you are directed to leave," a police officer told protesters gathered at one entry point. The crowd stayed in place. AP

### Ex-spy chief wants to share prison cell with Fujimori

LIMA, Peru—Captured ex-spy chief Vladimiro Montesinos told members of a congressional commission he wants former President Alberto Fujimori imprisoned with him, the panel's chair said.

Congressman Pedro Morales said Wednesday that Montesinos "is cooperating with judicial powers to demonstrate ex-President Fujimori's responsibility and to permit them to extradite him to, as he put it, share the cell he occupies."

Montesinos refused to answer questions at the congressional commission about secret military spending decrees for millions of dollars signed by Fujimori and members of his Cabinet that Montesinos is alleged to have used for shady arms deals.

But Morales said Montesinos, who was captured June 23 in Venezuela after eight months on the run, was cooperat-

ing fully with anti-corruption judges conducting a similar investigation.

Montesinos, 56, is being temporarily held in a prison that he helped design for top guerrilla leaders on a naval base in Lima's port of Callao.

Fujimori, 62, who faces charges of dereliction of duty and abandonment of office, fled to Japan, his parents' homeland, in November amid mounting corruption scandals surrounding Montesinos.

He was granted Japanese citizenship in December, putting him out

JAKARTA—Indonesia's political leaders yesterday cast doubt on moves by President Abdurrahman Wahid to buy time and avoid an embarrassing impeachment hearing by hammering out a compromise with his foes.

The embattled president said late Wednesday that if he declares a state of emergency on Friday—as he has repeatedly threatened—it would now not take effect until July 31 to allow another 11 days for a compromise to be found.

But one MP said even if Wahid's decree did not come into effect immediately, the country's top body, the national assembly, or MPR, would hold a snap impeachment hearing straight after the declaration.

"Regardless of when it comes into effect, we will hold the session as soon as he issues the decree," the Golkar party leader in the national assembly, Fahmi Idris, said.

"For instance, if tomorrow (Friday) he declares a state of emergency with a decree that's not valid for several days, we will start the special session immediately."

The MPR is scheduled to meet on Aug. 1 to call the country's first freely elected president to account

over two alleged financial scandals and his inept rule.

Wahid, who is known by his nickname Gus Dur, has expressed confidence that a compromise can be reached before Aug. 1, but has threatened to declare a state of emergency, which gives him the power to dissolve parliament.

Under a 10-point compromise plan being brokered by opposition leaders Akbar Tanjung of Golkar and Hamzah Haz of the United Development Party (PPP), Wahid would not be impeached but transfer his entire powers to his estranged deputy, Vice President Megawati Sukarnoputri.

But MPs were yesterday divided over whether the national assembly would consider such a compromise, or whether it would even be acceptable.

"It is possible to debate the compromise at the special MPR session," the Golkar party's leader in the lower house, Syamsul Muarif, said.

"But looking at the political constellation, it will be difficult for Gus Dur to get it accepted."

Megawati, who stands to replace Wahid if he is ousted, and leaders of her Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDIP) have ruled out any compromise before the session.

PDIP secretary general Suciwo said the party was opposed to having the compromise proposal placed on the special session's agenda.

"From the PDIP's point of view the proposed power transfer cannot be discussed in the special session," he said.

"There are only two options—to reject or accept the president's accountability report," he said, referring to the assembly's demand that Wahid account for his 20 months of rule. A rejection of his account would lead to his ouster.

Muarif, from the Golkar Party, said any compromise could be debated in committee by the assembly and then voted on.

"But if the proposal involves Gus Dur staying on as president after giving up all his powers and authorities, then it cannot be accepted," he said.

"We cannot have political mathematics like that. He may as well resign."

But Idris said Wahid had already ruled out a full handover of power.

"Gus Dur still wants to pick the Cabinet and he wants control over Cabinet portfolios," he said.

Tanjung told Golkar members Wednesday that Wahid had rejected three points of the 10-point proposal—"giving full authority to Megawati, allowing Megawati to choose the Cabinet, and giving Megawati control of all portfolios in the Cabinet." APP

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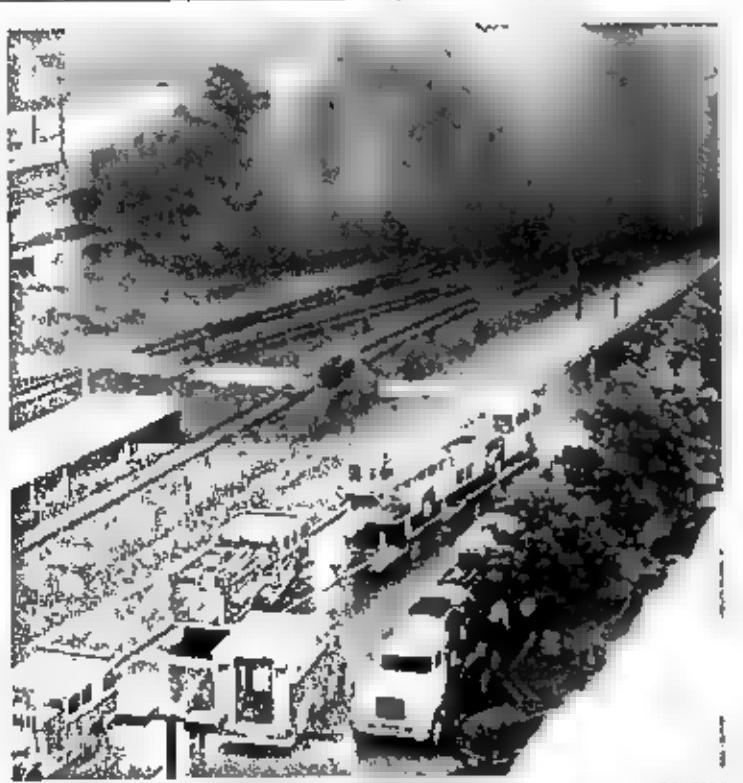
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FIREMEN battle smoke billowing from a train tunnel in Baltimore.

## US train carrying toxic materials derailed

**BALTIMORE**—A freight train carrying hydrochloric acid and other hazardous materials derailed in a downtown tunnel and caught fire, pushing thick, black smoke into surrounding neighborhoods and forcing officials to temporarily close all major roads into the city.

Civil defense sirens blared across Baltimore Wednesday as firefighters donned oxygen masks to enter the tunnel. Roads were closed for several hours after the accident at the request of police and firefighters. Thousands of baseball fans were turned away from a Baltimore Orioles game at Camden Yards, and boats were kept out of the city's Inner Harbor.

Eight tanker cars were carrying hazardous materials, including hydrochloric acid, which can burn the lungs if inhaled, CSX spokesperson Rob Gould said.

"Right now, there are no indications that there are hazardous materials (in the smoke) but we're not 100 percent and are still taking precautions," fire department spokesperson

Hector Torres said.

Mayor Martin O'Malley said the smoke coming from the tunnel was being monitored.

"So far, all the air quality has been OK," O'Malley said.

"There's some really hazardous stuff in there."

"If we err on the side of caution, everybody will have to hold me accountable for the traffic disruption."

About 100 firefighters were at the scene. It wasn't until shortly after 11 p.m. that the men finally reached the fire inside the tunnel, Torres said. The fire was still burning early Thursday.

"I think we're probably going to go through the morning with this incident," Torres said.

Two firefighters were injured and taken to hospitals, suffering from chest pains.

Earlier, one firefighter who went into the tunnel, said his colleagues were forced back by the heightened state of alert.

At Camden Yards, the second game in the Orioles' day-night doubleheader was postponed.

AP

## Italy cops brace for violent protests

**GENOA**—She's done it so many times, it takes Chiara Cassunno only a few minutes to get ready. She'll strap on makeshift body armor fashioned from a cut-up foam mattress, don a gas mask and goggles, top it off with a construction worker's hard hat—and hit the streets.

Tens of thousands of protesters planned to stage mass demonstrations in the Italian port city of Genoa beginning Thursday, the eve of a three-day summit by the world's big industrialized powers that is the latest international gathering to be targeted by demonstrators loosely grouped under the banner of the anti-globalization movement.

Most of the marchers say they want to make a point—peacefully—about forgiving Third World debt, reining in giant corporations, promoting immigrants' rights, or another issue in the constellation of left-leaning causes associated with the summit sites.

However, Cassunno's group—an anarchist-minded Italian bloc called Tute Bianche, or White Overalls, for their trademark jumpsuits—could be headed for a real confrontation with the formidable security force guarding the summit sites.

Police and soldiers—about 20,000 in all—have sealed off Genoa's medieval city center and parts of its old port, creating a restricted-access area known as the Red Zone. At the heart of it is the ornate 14th-century Palazzo Ducale, where the leaders of the Group of Eight, or G-8—the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada, plus Russia—will meet.

AP

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# Israel masses tanks in W. Bank

**JERUSALEM**—Newly positioned Israeli tanks and military vehicles kept watch yesterday on two West Bank towns, while Palestinians voiced skepticism of Israel's assurances it was not building up for an invasion of Palestinian areas.

Palestinian security officials in the northern West Bank town of Jenin yesterday morning said they counted 15 tanks and more than 20 armored personnel carriers around the city. More than a dozen tanks were positioned on the outskirts of Bethlehem.

Usually two or three tanks, plus many soldiers, are positioned outside each city.

In Washington, US State Department spokesperson Philip Reeker said Wednesday that the United States was studying the significance of the troop buildup, adding, "there can be no military solution to this conflict."

Despite assurance from numerous Israeli officials, Arafat's deputy Mahmoud Abbas, speaking to local Palestinian journalists late Wednesday, said the Palestinian Authority believed there was a "large possibility" of an incursion as part of a broader plan.

The Israeli government has prepared different plans and scenarios, beginning with assassinating Palestinian Authority leaders and ending with an incursion into Palestinian Authority areas," Abbas said, adding he was concerned the troop movements were a preliminary step toward one of the scenarios being carried out.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has denounced the buildup as a "very dangerous military escalation."

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres flatly dismissed the prospect of an invasion saying "we don't intend to re-conquer, so to speak, the territories."

Palestinians control about 40 percent of the West Bank and two-thirds of Gaza under interim peace accords.

Avi Prawer, an Israeli government spokesperson, said the troop movements were intended as a "stop sign" for Arafat that will calm the situation

on the ground. "He has to issue a clear order to his people ... to stop his terror campaign against Israel," he said.

Meanwhile, the Israeli army and Palestinian security officials said Israeli soldiers yesterday entered a part of Hebron under full Palestinian control. Palestinian police opened fire and, after a brief exchange, the soldiers withdrew. The Israeli army said the soldiers entered by mistake, one soldier was slightly injured, but returned to duty quickly.

The army said three anti-tank grenades also were fired early Thursday at a military outpost near an Israeli settlement in the southern Gaza Strip. Soldiers did not return fire and there were no casualties, the army said.

In a telephone conversation Wednesday with Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon called for "international pressure on Arafat, speaking in a single voice against terror, denouncing terror unequivocally."

Speaking in Madrid, Spain, UN

Middle East envoy Terje Roed-Larsen called for consolidation of a US-sponsored ceasefire negotiated last month. Then, he said, plans to ease restrictions in Palestinian areas and restart peace talks could move forward.

Roadblocks and travel restrictions create grave hardships for many Palestinians. Workers are banned from Israel, idling more than 100,000 Palestinians and depriving their economy of one of its main sources of income.

The Israeli troop reinforcements were announced late Tuesday night after the first Palestinian mortar fire in the West Bank since the latest violence began on Sept. 28. Earlier in the day, Israeli helicopters carried out a helicopter gunship assassination strike on a Bethlehem-area Hamas military wing leader, killing him and three other people.

Usually troop movements are classified. But the Israeli military, in an unusual move, leaked news of the buildup late Tuesday. Figures for additional forces weren't released. AP

## Thousands join general strike over Argentina's austerity plan

**BUENOS AIRES**—Thousands of civil servants walked off the job shouting insults against a government austerity plan, the vanguard of thousands of disgruntled workers who vowed to force Argentina to a standstill Thursday with a 24-hour general strike.

Even before the strike's start, an estimated 3,900 state workers banged drums and chanted anti-government slogans outside the president's offices in the capital. They were joined by elderly retirees opposed to government plans to cut wages and pensions to cope with a deep recession.

The warning made no direct reference to Osama bin Laden, the suspected Saudi terrorist believed to be living in Afghanistan. But the official noted that the new warning is a supplement—not a replacement—for a June 22 warning in which there was a specific reference to Bin Laden and the potential threat from extremist groups associated with him.

"As always, we take this information seriously," the department said in Wednesday's public announcement.

"US government facilities remain at a heightened state of alert."

US citizens were urged to remain vigilant and to exercise caution. In the past, the statement said, terrorists have not distinguished between official and civilian targets.

Department officials said they had no further information on specific targets, timing or method of attack. AP

shut down commuter trains and buses, trash collection and state banks, public hospitals and public offices for 24 hours. Officials scrambled to make contingency plans in this country of 36 million people.

It was the biggest planned strike since hundreds of thousands of workers walked off the job Nov. 23 over government belt-tightening.

Hugo Moyano, head of the 2-million-strong General Workers Confederation, said the political and economic leadership were bent on destroying Argentina and its workers.

"We are going to fight to keep them from punishing us," he said, adding that big economic interests like banks and newly privatized state industries should foot the bill—not the people.

Argentina needs to pay off \$130 billion in public debt, and is mired in a third year of recession with 15 percent unemployment.

A crisis atmosphere has enveloped the government since Argentine stocks tumbled 12 percent last week on worries about the country's long-term solvency.

Lenders at a routine treasury bill auction balked at lending fresh money to Argentina at anything

but double-digit interest rates.

Shut off from fresh borrowing by the high rates, De la Rua and provincial governors have begun imposing unpopular austerity measures, including a 13-percent, across-the-board cut in all spending including state workers' salaries and pensions.

Cavallo went on television late Wednesday railing the plan as the most important since he stabilized Argentina's devalued currency a decade ago by pegging the peso, one-to-one, to the dollar—known as the Convertibility Plan.

"We are on the way to building a new mechanism that will benefit everyone," said Cavallo, adding that the new austerity plan "will be as important an institution in Argentina as Convertibility."

Fourteen opposition Peronist governors have joined the president's ruling coalition in tepid support of the plan, intended to bring public spending in line with expenditures within months.

The austerity measures are backed by international lenders, including the International Monetary Fund, which has set terms for Argentina's continued access to \$40 billion in bailout credit. AP

# Teenangels teaching peers about online computer safety

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CHICAGO—They might not be faster than a speedy cable modem, or even able to leap a row of computer terminals in a single bound. But their mission does sound a little like a job for a superhero.

They are the Teenangels, a growing team of young volunteers worldwide who—armed with Internet savvy and a little common sense—protect their peers online.

Their biggest goal is to teach young Web surfers how they can avoid criminals who prey on children by using e-mail, online chat rooms and even instant messages to contact them.

"Even if we got one more parent to not be afraid to let their child on the Internet—or saved one child from a predator, that would be good. But we're obviously going for a lot more than one," says Brittany, a 17-year-old Teenangel who will be a senior this fall at an all-girls Catholic school in Demarest, New Jersey.

That's where the first team of Teenangels got their start two years ago with the help of Parry Aftab, a New York lawyer who specializes in security and privacy law.

Since 1995, Aftab's organization—Cyberangels.org—has trained thousands of adult volunteers to do everything from field questions about Web harassment to monitor chat rooms for inappropriate online advances.

Adding youth as messengers "is a great way to teach kids who don't listen to adults as much as they listen to other kids," Aftab says. Besides, she adds, young people often know more about the Internet than adults.

By year's end, Aftab says there will be about 350 Teenangels worldwide—from Mexico to India to Australia. New teams are being trained this summer in such cities as Houston, Washington, Los Angeles and San Jose, California.

They learn about mistakes young people make when approached online by strangers (most often, they are too trusting) and get updates on anti-predator laws from state police, the FBI and officials from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

The Teenangels then spread the messages at

schools and on their website. They're also looking for funding to produce a video for distribution at schools, libraries and video stores.

"These aren't just techie, geeky kids," says William Desa, an FBI special agent in Newark, New Jersey, and Teenangel trainer who specializes in crimes against children. "These kids are smart, articulate role models."

They are also cautious, illustrated by the fact that Brittany and the other Teenangels speak only on the condition that their last names not be used—information they'd like to keep out of the wrong hands.

Indeed, stories of online youth harassment are common.

Alexis, a 16-year-old Teenangel on the New Jersey team, tells the story of a friend who was shocked to find her school photo posted on a website with her name, age and favorite sport. The culprit turned out to be a fellow student.

And it can get much scarier.

Katie, a 16-year-old from Houston who'll soon train to be a Teenangel, tells how—at age 12—she discovered that this supposed 16-year-old online "boyfriend" who persuaded her to send nude photos was actually a married man in his 40s from Utah.

He's now in jail. And Katie is using her story to alert children and teens to one of the basics of Internet safety: never give out personal information that could help lead someone you meet online to your doorstep.

A survey conducted in May by Disney Online found that more than 90 percent of children who responded said they knew not to reveal their name, address and phone number to online strangers.

But Teenangels say that's not enough. They warn against even giving out seemingly harmless information—your sports team's name or where you work—that could help a savvy predator find you.

"You may think you know who you're talking to, but you really don't," says Hector, a 16-year-old who's volunteered to join the Teenangel team at his San Jose high school.

The Teenangels aren't the only young people who've taken on the cause.

Eighteen-year-old Taryn Prean, for example, created a safety brochure as a Girl Scout project after a fellow student at her school in Thief River Falls, Minnesota, sent her anonymous threatening e-mails and pornographic pictures. She also testified for a bill—now a new law—in her home state that makes online harassment a crime.

Prean, who's spoken at more than 150 schools, says she's glad the Teenangels' ranks are growing because young people "need all the help we can get."

AP

## Online safety tips for teens

HERE'S a selection of the Teenangels' "Online Safety Tips For Teens":

- Never give out the password to your Internet account. The person who controls the password controls everything.

- Never give out information that will allow someone to find you offline. That includes your full name, address and telephone number—and even your school's name, the teams you belong to and where you work. You don't have to give personal information just because someone else does.

- Don't incorporate your real name into your

online screen name. And don't choose one that is provocative (flirtatious, vulgar, etc.).

- Never meet people you meet on the Internet in person. If you insist on breaking this rule, make sure you tell someone you trust whom you are meeting and any information you know about this person. Consider having your parents talk to the parents of the person you're meeting. Meet in a very public place and consider taking someone, preferably an adult, with you.

- If you think you're being harassed or stalked online, never reply to the harasser. Tell an adult and, if applicable, the police.

AP

This car tells jokes, talks back

LONDON—It could be the ultimate nightmare for motorists—the car that cracks jokes and talks back.

It is not science fiction but an invention by US computer maker IBM and could be in an automobile near you within five years, according to New Scientist magazine.

Dubbed the Artificial Passenger by inventors Wlodek Wlodzimierz and Dimitri Kanavetsky, the system involves an on-board computer containing a profile of the driver.

Intended to keep the motorist alert while at the wheel, the system, which includes a conversation planner program which will rap out questions and measure response times,

A slow or mumbled response—let alone a wrong one—will be quickly punished by a squirt of icy water, an opened window or an alarm buzzer.

It even has a sneaky side, changing radio stations to see if the driver notices or cracking a joke and listening for a laugh.

Reuters

Taliban bans 30 items

ISLAMABAD—Afghanistan's ruling Taliban movement banned the import of 30 items it said were un-Islamic, including playing cards, ties, lipsticks, nail polish and chessboards.

Other items banned for being "against the Shari'a," or Islamic law, include fireworks, statues, fashion catalogues and greeting cards featuring pictures of people, musical instruments and cassettes.

Also banned were computer discs, movies, satellite TV dishes, pig fat products and anything made of human hair.

Reuters

It's all in here.



**Editorial Bureau**  
Room 201, Bonifacio Araneta  
10 Happy Glen, Baguio City  
Tel. No. (074) 443-9255  
Fax No. (074) 443-8871  
E-mail: baguio@inquirer.com.ph

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# Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

## Aetas want Magsaysay land

BY TONETTE OREJAS  
PDI Central Luzon Desk

**I**BA, Zambales—Some 100 Aeta families displaced by Mt. Pinatubo's eruption and who are dissatisfied with the lack of farms to till in resettlement sites want a 140-hectare property owned by the family of Gov. Vicente Magsaysay placed under the government's agrarian reform program.

The Nagkakaisang Samahan ng Katutubo ng Moraza at Villar, in a letter signed by its members, urged the Department of Agrarian Reform to put the estate of the Jessmag Inc. in Sitio Banag in Barangay Palanganan here under the cov-

erage of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program.

They said they have planted rice, vegetables, root crops and fruit-bearing trees in farms they developed at the Jessmag property since 1994.

Politicians had verbal agreements to such as use, they said. These farms, they added, were their only sources of food.

The Aetas, who originally hail from Botolan town, said it would take them several decades to return to their old villages because these are still buried under thick volcanic deposits.

The prospects of CARP came when the DAR obtained at least 11 hectares in the Jessmag property through compul-

sory acquisition in 1997, a land title obtained by the Project Development Institute from the Registry of Deeds showed.

The DAR, according to the institute, distributed the land to 15 beneficiaries, one of which was a relative of the barangay agrarian reform officer.

Alejandro Basa, the property's caretaker, said he, as a tribal chieftain then, helped transfer the Aetas in Banag Village, a move that the governor later consented to.

Basa, 69, said the Magsaysays acquired the land, which was only 80 hectares, from the Encarnacion family. The land was a sugar plantation until the Magsaysays abandoned it in the 1970s.

Although still untitled, the Magsaysays have tax declarations to prove ownership, he said.

In a province where lands serve as a political commodity during elections, the institute helping the Aetas said tribe members and other landless farmers have found themselves always at the mercy of politicians.

The institute urged the DAR to prioritize large private agricultural lands for CARP.

A report from the DAR office here in May said Jessmag only owns 57 hectares of land in the town that are either under court litigation or are occupied by illegal settlers.

### WEATHER FORECAST

**FORECAST:** The whole of Luzon and Western Visayas will experience monsoon rains while the rest of the country will be cloudy with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. **SOURCE: PAGASA**

Metro Manila	Rainy	H 21° Lo 22°
Dagupan	Rainy	H 21° Lo 19°
Tuguegarao	Rainy	H 20° Lo 21°
La Union	Rainy	H 20° Lo 24°
Clark Zone	Rainy	H 20° Lo 23°
Tagaytay	Rainy	H 20° Lo 22°
Legazpi	Rainy	H 30° Lo 24°
Calapan	Rainy	H 23° Lo 24°
Bacolod	Rainy	H 23° Lo 25°
Ortigas	Rainy	H 23° Lo 25°
Davao	Cloudy	H 30° Lo 24°
Tacloban	Cloudy	H 30° Lo 25°
Gen. Santos	Cloudy	H 31° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Cloudy	H 30° Lo 24°
Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy	H 31° Lo 23°
Davao	Cloudy	H 31° Lo 28°

Compiled by Ray Leyesa, PDI Research/07/20/01

### ROUNDUP

#### P1M for anti-drug bid

**DUMAGUETE CITY**—The Negros Oriental Peace and Order Council is asking the province to set aside P1 million to support the Philippine National Police's campaign against illegal drugs. In a meeting of the POC Monday at the Boy Scouts headquarters here, Gov. George Arama assured he will support the request but it has to be approved first by the provincial board in its session on Thursday. Arama agreed that the province should contribute in the police's anti-drug campaign saying he was aware that increasing drug use among the youth is the worst problem of the province today. The governor also appealed to the city and town mayors of Negros Oriental to support their respective local police stations to curb the drug problem.

*Alex Pal, PDI Visayas Bureau*

#### P17M in rice seized

**NAGA CITY**—The Special Projects Group, a presidential body tasked to monitor the entry of smuggled products in the country, seized some P17 million worth of premium rice at the Pasacao Port, Camarines Sur. Supt. Leocadio Santiago, police provincial director of Camarines Sur, said the 27,000 sacks of rice were believed smuggled into the country by a syndicate that uses buckdoe entries in the Visayas or Mindanao. He said the sacks of rice were registered to a certain Gregorio Din, consigned to a certain Nieves Uy and brought in from the Visayas by the vessel MV Roman Juan Escandor Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

#### Mindanao showcase

**CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY**—The Department of Trade and Industry here on Wednesday opened the Mindanao Product Showroom for small and medium enterprises. Among the products displayed in the showroom include the famous Salay handmade paper which is now being exported. DTI director Ninfa Along-Albania told the INQUIRER that the activity could boost competitiveness among local producers. Competitiveness, she said, also means higher quality

*Grace Cantal-Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

#### Prices stable

**CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY**—Amid the series of oil price hikes in May and July, prices of basic commodities such as soap, canned milk, canned fish and other goods were unchanged here. The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Consumer Welfare Division in Northern Mindanao said this was due to the strict implementation of Republic Act 7581 or the Price Act. In times of abnormal ones such as the volatility of the peso-dollar exchange, the Price Act only allows traders to slap a 10 percent increase on prices of products being sold within a month.

*Grace Cantal-Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

#### 3 killed in encounter

**DAVAO CITY**—An Army sergeant and two members of the Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Unit (Cafgu) were killed when ambushed by about 30 New People's Army rebels in Barangay Ambungan, Maco, Compostela Valley on Saturday afternoon. Col. Feupe Berrya, 701st Infantry Division chief, said elements of the 60th Infantry Battalion under Maj. Roger Madalogdog were riding in a military vehicle when attacked. Killed were Sgt. Verbo Castillo and Cafgu Orlando Antenaria and Bernie Cinda. Berrya said government troops fired back, resulting in an hour-long exchange of gunfire until reinforcement troopers arrived, forcing the rebels to withdraw.

*Anthony Allinda, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

#### Villar: RP in crisis

**CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY**—Sen. Manuel Villar said he could not blame Filipinos who go abroad for work as the country is still facing an economic crisis. Villar, in a news briefing here over the weekend, said there was nothing he could do to stop Filipinos from going abroad. "I am not happy (at) what they are doing but the government has not provided them jobs."

*Grace Cantal-Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

#### Fund lack hounds feast

**DAVAO CITY**—The private sector here will help raise funds to make sure that the yearly Kadayawan Festival pushes through next month. But because of the lack of funds, the Kadayawan Festival this year will only be for three days, from Aug. 16-19, instead of the usual one week. Abdulilah Aquino, chair of the Kadayawan Festival Foundation, said the private sector already met with Mayor Rodrigo Duterte over the weekend. "We will request from the mayor a formal letter so I can distribute it to the private sector to come up with funds," he said. Aquino said they will solicit funds from the hotel and restaurant industry, which will benefit most from the festival. Duterte has said he will scrap the festival because of the mounting garbage problem and lack of budget. Aquino said this year's festival will focus now on horticulture and agriculture exhibits and locally-made products. One of the highlights of the festival is the horse fight, a tradition of the Bugobo tribe of Davao. "It would be more detrimental to the image of the city if the Kadayawan will not push through. Investors and tourists expect it each year," Aquino said.

*Joel Escrivilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

#### Apologies

**THE INQUIRER** apologizes to Simon Oliver for taking the picture of a shark that appeared in the ENQUIRER VISAYAS issue on June 16, page A-14.

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1. Ang Raffle Prize ay magsasama sa May 20, 2001 na hangganan March 15, 2002. Mga International money transfer na gipanalo at maitatanggap lamang ng claimant sa Western Union agent location sa Metro Manila ay maaaring mabigat sa 100 pesos. 2. Sa pagtanggap ng bawat 3 qualifying international money transfers na gilingan sa kahit saan mang participating Western Union agent location sa Metro Manila ay mabigat sa 100 pesos. 3. Sa bawat pagtanggap ng bawat 3 qualifying international money transfers na gilingan sa Metro Manila ay maaaring mabigat sa 100 pesos. 4. Katingan ang mabigat sa 100 pesos. 5. Sa fulfillment center ay papuntahan ang bawat 3 qualifying international money transfers na gilingan sa Metro Manila ay mabigat sa 100 pesos. 6. Sa fulfillment center ay papuntahan ang bawat 3 qualifying international money transfers na gilingan sa Metro Manila ay mabigat sa 100 pesos. 7. 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CASHING in on the greed of people—Cortez in the custody of police in Cagayan de Oro City.

FROILAN GALLARDO

## Seller of Marcos 'riches' arrested

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY

M. samis Oriental policemen yesterday arrested a tribesman who tried to sell thousands of tons of gold, platinum and diamonds allegedly owned by the late President Ferdinand Marcos to foreign tourists.

Jhonny Cortez, 41, president of the Mindanao Tribal Foundation, was arrested during a raid by the police on his residence in Barangay Aplaya, Jasaan town.

Found in his possession were fake US dollars, Argentinean notes and a certificate detailing deposits in gold, diamond and platinum of the late President in the former Republic of Yugoslavia.

Supt. Francisco Tiqui Jr., chief of the PNP Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) in Northern Mindanao, said Cortez had already victimized a Japanese tourist shortly before his arrest.

He said the unidentified Japanese tourist paid \$30,000 last Wednesday for a bundle of fake Japanese currency notes allegedly peddled by Cortez.

Tiqui said they also found other bogus documents in Cortez's possession, including a certificate of agreement between the late President Marcos and the Yugoslavian government which covers deposits of 1,000 metric tons of diamonds, 10,000 metric tons of platinum and

10,000 tons of gold in various banks in Yugoslavia since 1981.

He said police also seized 25 pieces of fake Argentinean certificates worth \$10 billion; one fake US Federal Reserve Bank certificate worth \$25 million in gold, and a US Liberty Bond worth 800 million Deutsche Marks.

"They (buyers) come to buy these things from me. I don't know that they were fake," Cortez said.

He said he bought the fake certificates by the bundles from his fellow tribesmen who brought them down from the mountains.

Tiqui told the Inquirer that Cortez would lure foreign tourists into buying the fake certificates with stories of a US plane that went down in Mindanao while transporting certificates of gold and money during World War II.

"It's a worn-out story told among treasure hunters but people are greedy. They always believe in these tales," Tiqui said.

Nestor Arenas, currency specialist of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, said syndicate members fake the fake certificates with ordinary margarine to make it look authentic.

Cortez was the sixth person arrested in connection with fake currency and gold certificates in Cagayan de Oro City in the past two years. Froilan Gallardo, PDI Mindanao Bureau

## Quake scars won't leave Ecija highway

By ANSELMO ROQUE  
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CABANATUAN CITY—Time may have healed the emotional and physical wounds caused by the effects of the July 16, 1990 killer earthquake on residents of Nueva Ecija.

From the ruins of the buildings destroyed by the Intensity 7.7 quake in the province, new and much stronger buildings have risen.

But the mountain highway in Carranglan, Nueva Ecija, leading to Dalton Pass in Nueva Vizcaya, continues to bear the scars of the deadly quake 11 years ago.

During rainy days, the stretch of highway from Baangay Puncan to Capitalian in Carranglan, is affected by mudslides coming from the mountains and by scouring caused by rampaging waters from the river.

The highway has to be closed to traffic every time there is mudslide and scouring of the roadside. Not a few travelers had experienced being stranded in this stretch of the highway for several hours as engineers from the Department of Public Works and Highways fix the area.

Former officials of the DPWH in Nueva Ecija told the Inquirer that the mountain highway would forever be a problem although it had undergone repairs.

This is because, they said, the mountain near the highway has been disturbed by the powerful earthquake.

"Naalang ang bundok at nagmga maluwag ang lupa (The mountain shook and the soil loosened)," Edwin Cruz, former DPWH district official in Nueva Ecija, described the area.

"Laging magkakaroon ng mudslide diyan basta't sunulan

(There will always be mudslides there every time it rains)," he said.

In one incident in 1991, the whole stretch of the mountain highway from San Jose City to Dalton Pass (Km 170 to Km 208) was marked with 26 mudslides in separate areas. It took workers several days to clear the area.

More than P52 million, which was part of the Philippine-Japan Highway Loan Fund, was spent to improve the roads, mountainsides, riversides and the bridges in that area.

But more funds are being used every year to clear the area of mudslides and the effects of scouring.

Officials of the DPWH in Nueva Ecija have asked for standby funds to be used every time mudslides affect the area as workers and equipment are moved to the area from their office in Talavera town.

Observers also said a solution to this perennial problem is to look for an alternative road that will not be as tough to pass through.

Such an alternative route is in the Cacecan Dam area, a portion of which now boasts of a "very good road." The Cacecan area can be reached through the town proper of Carranglan and can exit to the nearest town in Nueva Vizcaya.

During the 1990 quake, 133 students and teachers were killed when the six-story building of the Christian College of the Philippines on Burgos Avenue here collapsed.

A college dean died when the library of the Central Luzon State University in Muñoz town collapsed while 16 people died in San Jose City and in houses along the mountain highway.

"Laging magkakaroon ng mudslide diyan basta't sunulan

## Probe sought of P14-M project to revive lahar-covered farms

BACOLOR, Pampanga—Suspecting an irregularity, farmers in this lahar-laden town urged newly elected officials to investigate a P14-million farm rehabilitation project funded by the defunct Mount Pinatubo Commission and implemented by past officials here.

Farmers belonging to the Aguman da reng Maldang Talapagobra qeng Gabun (AMTG) and Association of Barangay Captains president Melchor Alfonso sought the investigation, saying many beneficiaries who signed memoranda of agreement reported not actually receiving support from the project.

"The project was the chance of our farmers to start anew. Daily, they travel all the way from resettlement sites to revive their farms

here. And funds for farm rehabilitation are very scarce here, the supposed beneficiaries did not get anything," Alfonso said.

An Inquirer check with the MPC showed that the P14 million was transferred last December to the municipal government led by then Mayor Ananias Canlas.

"It (the project) was part of the winding-up activities of the agency. We have actually disbursed the funds to the local government," Florodela Arroza, MPC administrative chief overseeing the agency's termination phase, said.

The MPC board, she added, approved the project in 1998 or during the term of its controversial chief, Julio Arambulo.

MPC reports indicated that more than 95 percent of the funds have

been used, with the municipal government liquidating P11.5 million.

But these have yet to be reviewed by the Commission on Audit, Arroza said.

Mayor Romeo Dungca, however, said he has no immediate evidence of irregularities but confirmed that several farmers have come to him complaining they have yet to get the carabaos, loans for equipment and support for scrapping lahar-covered lands, which were agreed upon under the project.

Dungca ordered an inventory of signed agreements and beneficiaries who claimed not to have gotten support from the project.

Canlas, interviewed by phone on Monday, assured that the funds were "used wisely and benefited the farmers."

The municipal government, according to him, merely served as a conduit of the funds, much of which went to cooperatives.

Arroza said she was sending a team to Bacolor to verify the reports of irregularity.

The AMTG, according to its leader Jose Cunanan, wanted to know who was accountable for the non-delivery of services.

"We wanted to know if the municipal government or the cooperatives really used the funds as planned. We don't want funds intended for farmers going to corruption because in Bacolor, you actually have people trying to revive their farms (despite) very limited government support," Cunanan said. Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk

## Bohol businessmen warn against wage hike

BY CRITO FUENTES  
PDI Visayas Bureau

TAGBILARAN CITY—The president of the Bohol Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc. (BCCI) said a new wage increase would be disastrous to local businessmen.

Loreto Palapos, BCCI president, said that although the chamber has not formally met to discuss the proposed wage hike, most Boholano traders have said they could not afford to increase their workers' pay at this time.

"Some businessmen are already having sleepless nights over the increase in the prices of gasoline and the devaluation of peso. A new round of wage increases could be disastrous," Palapos said.

He noted that many businesses

have not even fully implemented the previous wage hikes approved by the Regional Wages and Productivity Board in Central Visayas.

The board has pegged the minimum wage in the region at P195 a day.

"All the more (that we could not pay for a new wage increase)," Palapos said when asked to comment on a new wage hike. "That will be a big blow to businessmen."

Palapos said while businessmen would have no choice but to implement a legislated wage increase, he warned that instead of alleviating the plight of laborers, it would in fact aggravate the situation.

"Many business firms will either fold up or retrench (workers)," he warned. "The businessman will have to choose between comply-

ing with a legislated wage increase or keeping his business afloat in these difficult times."

Palapos said contrary to the opin-

ion of many people, many business-

men are actually cash-strapped. "It

is the banks (that) have money, (that)

lend money to traders," he said.

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# Gov't health insurer probes 24 hospitals

BY TONETTE OREJAS  
PDI Central Luzon Desk

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO**—The Philippine Health Insurance Corp. (PhilHealth) is investigating 24 hospitals in Central Luzon for alleged multiple claims, overpricing of medicines and surgical operations and other irregularities.

"We're trying to find out if these hospitals earned something illegally (from PhilHealth's medical program for the indigents)," Tito Mendiola, PhilHealth regional director, told reporters here Tuesday.

The hospitals in question comprised 15 percent of the 160 accredited government and private hospitals in Central Luzon, PhilHealth's biggest service region outside Metro Manila.

Also being investigated are the alleged prescription of non-generic drugs and the erroneous reporting of the number of days patients are confined in hospitals.

The corporation last year paid its accredited hospitals P575 million for the medical needs of some 92,000 PhilHealth members in the region.

Mendiola did not say how much money the hospitals under investigation had collected. He also declined to give the names of the hospitals or in what provinces these were based, saying the investigation is in progress.

He said there were no indications that these malpractices were rampant and if organized syndicates were behind these.

According to him, the government-owned PhilHealth, which replaced the MediCare, was pursuing the cases.

The hospitals face closure, fines or suspension of accreditation if found liable for the irregularities, he said.

An inquiry by Board Member Lilia

Pineda on whether indigents were actually benefiting from PhilHealth's program prompted the corporation to look into the alleged malpractices of the hospitals.

The PhilHealth in Pampanga has 11,284 members, 4,208 of whom come from poor towns and whose health insurance premiums were paid for by the provincial government through a P500,000 budget, Pineda said.

According to Mendiola, only 168 of 4,208 members whom the provincial government was subsidizing availed themselves of medical services last year under PhilHealth.

PhilHealth has paid P666,000 for the medical services obtained by these 168 members, Mendiola said.

Pineda, before agreeing to a proposal to increase the provincial subsidy to P1 million, said she wanted to know why only a few beneficiaries availed themselves of the services or if those who tried to avail themselves of the benefits were refused by the hospitals.

In Angeles City, some 2,000 PhilHealth members decried the move of Mayor Carmelo Lazatin to terminate its contract with the corporation.

Lazatin planned to start a new contract but first wanted non-indigent members stricken out of the list and for PhilHealth to guarantee that it would benefit the city's poorest families, Mendiola said.

In the Visayas, PhilHealth officials are at loggerheads with hospital owners over the slow processing of medical insurance claims.

The hospitals threatened to stop admitting PhilHealth patients if their claims were not paid on time.

The conflict led to a meeting recently, but the conference did not yield any agreement.



WAR BABY

It's not surprising to hear of soldiers treating their firearms like their best buddies, or even spouses. So soldiers using baby oil to clean their rifle muzzles, like this enlisted man in Basian, should come as no surprise, too.

DENNIS SABANGAN

## Colonel's media critics get death threats

**GENERAL SANTOS CITY**—Several reporters here have received death threats after they signed a manifesto calling for the ouster of Col. Pedro Magsino, chief of the 601st Army Brigade here.

The death threats were relayed through text messages on Friday and Saturday, telling the reporters that their days were numbered.

Among those who got the death threats were Vic Dante, manager of Bombo Radyo; Cris Guarin, program director of GMA Super Radyo; Ernie Gabonada, station manager of Radyo Agong; and Sanne Sombrio, reporter of a local ABS-CBN TV station here.

Dante, Guarin and Gabonada host morning commentary programs aired

daily in their respective radio stations. The three were also signatories to the petition calling for Magsino's immediate relief.

"Mga local media nakuhan na kaya ng katapal n'yo. Kotapsan n'yo na!" Guarin quoted the text message he received at 6 a.m. Saturday as saying.

But Guarin said he could not recall the phone number of the sender as his wife deleted the message.

Guarin also disclosed that two unidentified men were tailing them.

The two suspicious-looking men were seen on Saturday standing at the main entrance of a stairway leading to GMA Super Radyo's newscenter on Cagampang Street here.

The two, Guarin added, were rid-

ing on a motorcycle without a license plate.

He said they have reported the incident to the police.

Bombo Radyo's Dante also received a similar text message on Friday from an unknown sender with cell number 09176037138.

Almost all members of the production staff of Bombo Radyo signed the manifesto.

The move to oust Magsino started when he brought arrested Abu Sayyaf leader Nadzim Saabdu to Manila without presenting him to the local media.

Guarin and Gabonada, however, were not yet convinced that the threat came from the military. The two said it is possible that some

parties are just riding on the issue.

"We have stepped on several toes in (the) course of performing our jobs as broadcasters. So it is quite unfair to immediately hurl accusations at the military," Gabonada said.

In an interview aired over GMA Super Radyo, Magsino debunked accusations that the military was behind the death threats. He said he would never resort to such a tactic even if he felt he became a whipping boy of the local media for enforcing orders from his superiors.

Magsino claimed that he brought Saabdu, alias Commander Global, immediately to Manila on orders of higher authorities. *Aquiles Zonia, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

## Bases waste seen cause of 2-yr-old's leukemia

**OLONGAPO CITY**—While former base worker Ciricio Manzano, a 48-year-old half-Aeta, was undergoing chemotherapy for maxillary cancer at the Philippine General Hospital last week, a two-year-old boy suffering from leukemia was rushed to a hospital in Olongapo due to excessive bleeding.

Master Bernal of Barangay New Kalakate in Olongapo was diagnosed to have acute lymphocytic leukemia.

The People's Task Force for Base Cleanup has arranged for his transfer to the PGH over the weekend so that part of his treatment and hospital fees can be charged to the medical funds of Sen. Sergio Osmeña (I).

Osmeña has given priority to suspected toxic waste victims in the coverage of his medical funds.

Aside from Bernal, the PTFBC-Olongapo has recorded five children confirmed to be suffering from leukemia, while 10 others are undergoing medical tests and social investigation.

The group also reported 20 other children with the following confirmed ailments: cerebral palsy, hydrocephalus, birth deformities, lung problems, congenital heart disease and skin disorder.

A volunteer worker said these are mostly children of former base workers.

Dr. Erlinda Gabriel, a volunteer doctor, has been conducting regular medical check-ups at the PTFBC-Olongapo office to determine further tests and guide volunteer workers in providing assistance.

The group has been working on cases from Olongapo, Zambales and Bataan.

Since last year, the PTFBC has stepped up the monitoring of leukemia and other health problems in Olongapo following the death last year of two leukemia victims, one of them a seven-year-old boy.

The first victim, Rudy Geronimo, 18, died at the height of public outrage over the US military's toxic legacy. The outrage was triggered by the death of another leukemia victim from Pampanga, six-year-old Crizel Jane Valencia.

PTFBC chair Myrla Baldonado said while "we have not really (determined) if the chemicals and contaminants used in the former US military bases caused these health problems, what is clear is that a danger to public health exists."

The PTFBC, through its Lingap health program, has helped over a hundred children and adults with various health problems in communities near the former Clark Air Base in Pampanga.

The predominant health problems were cancer, central nervous system disorders and birth deformities.

Bernal was among 14 cancer-stricken children recommended for medical and diagnostic evaluation last January under a program of the Department of Health for the study and treatment of afflicted children in communities near Clark and Subic.

*Elizabeth Marcelo, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

## Iloilo board OKs consultants

BY MA. DIOSA LABISTE  
PDI Visayas Bureau

**ILIOLO CITY**—The Iloilo provincial board has approved the plan of Gov. Niel Tupas to hire 10 consultants whose functions duplicate those of other workers at the provincial government.

In a closed-door session Tuesday, the members of the provincial board reached a consensus to grant the request of Tupas to hire 10 consultants, two each in the field of agriculture, health, infrastructure, media and politics.

Their decision will be formalized through a normal voting on Monday, said Vice Gov. Roberto Aranda.

The board is expected to approve the hiring since only two—Bea Margarico and Romeo Palmares—of all the 13 board members who attended the closed-door meeting were lukewarm to the idea of employing consultants.

In a letter to the board on July 11, Tupas justified the hiring of consultants by saying that he needed "topnotch individuals" to identify measures to address poverty in the province.

Margarico, who chairs the board's committee on health, said there was no need for a health consultant as the province's health programs are now in place.

Palmares said the money to pay for the consultants could go to road repairs.

The consultants' salaries, ranging from P16,000 to P22,000 a month, would cost the province P1.3 million until December.

Tupas declined to name his consultants but promised to do so after members of the board approve his request for the appropriation of their salaries. The provincial treasurer had certified that funds are available for the salaries of the consultants.

Critics of the governor see the functions of the consultants as a duplication of the work of the provincial agriculturist, health officer, provincial engineer and chief of the provincial government's information section.

Also, each board member either chairs or is a member of similar committees that conduct visits and public hearings in the towns.

## Funds for 'whistleblowers' sought

A BULACAN congressman has proposed the creation of a special fund to award citizens, including government workers, who could provide information on government corruption.

In a statement, Rep. Willie Villarreal (2nd District, Bulacan) quoted a World Bank study as saying that the Philippine government loses P2 billion a year to corruption.

According to the World Bank, the weakest link in the government's fight against corruption is the unwillingness of citizens to come forward with information against corrupt officials and employees.

"We need to institute a reward system for whistleblowers in and out of government who can provide information about corrupt public officials. Only by involving the citizenry can we hope to succeed in fighting graft and corruption," Villarreal said.

The lawmaker said the Macapagal administration was able to allocate P100 million in public funds to reward citizens with information leading to the arrest of known Abu Sayyaf leaders and supporters. He said a similar scheme is needed to increase public participation in the government's desire to promote good governance.

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THE PEOPLE'S AIRLINE



## NEW FAMILIES

## Divorce bill raises population fears

BAGUIO CITY—Because infidelity has always been the biggest reason for marital break-ups in the country, the controversial divorce bill being pushed by Sen. Rodolfo Biazon could trigger a new population explosion, according to health and population officials here.

"Divorce is a sensitive issue in the Philippines, because Filipino couples usually break up because of infidelities. This means they will seek and build new families. That simply means more children," said Dante Evangelista, spokesperson of the Commission on Population (Popcom) in the Cordillera.

But less this becomes a new argument against Biazon's proposal, the same officials stressed that the Philippines also shares a growing global pattern for smaller families.

Small urban families have become an accepted Filipino sexual lifestyle that can cope with the changes a divorce law can make, Dr. Myrna Cabutaje, acting regional director of the

Department of Health, said.

"Perhaps this means that the Filipino couples who will face a (culture that accepts) divorce will not automatically have children even after they break up," she said.

The country's 75.3-million population is at a sign that some measure of stability is needed due to younger Filipinos' preference for smaller families, she said.

Like most countries, the Philippine population growth "has slowed (down) . . . although populations are still increasing," a Popcom handout notes.

In fact, the world population forecasts a build up from today's 6.1 billion world population to 9.3 billion by 2050, largely because 48 least developed countries like the Philippines will "nearly triple in size" by that time.

President Macapagal-Arroyo and Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin have been vocal about their opposition to Biazon's bill.

Biazon called them hypocrites.

The bill came after the 1999 divorce bill filed by La Union Rep. Manuel Ortega, which was dumped with other so-called "sin bills" like the abortion bill, said Letty Miana, a psychologist of the gender-rights group Ebgan Inc.

She said the "sin bills" were immediately scrapped because of opposition mainly coming from the Catholic Church, which continues to wield influence in governance.

Miana said government would also need to dig further into the reasons for marital break-ups.

"If they dig into infidelities, they will go back to domestic violence. Usually when infidelities are discovered, the partners tend to deal with different coping mechanisms. Either one partner will confront the unfaithful partner or ignore the infidelity. But in our (professional) experience, the infidelity always blows up into violence. I don't mean just physical violence, but the emotional violence that really (neutral-

ize) a relationship," she said.

"But violence is the real reason why gender rights groups have been pushing for a divorce bill." Biazon had been very clear about the rationale of his bill," Miana said.

In fact, according to Popcom, violence against Filipino women continues to escalate, with one out of 10 reporting being harmed physically by "someone close to him or her."

Cabutaje said the divorce bill has deeper resonance for Filipino adolescents, who represent the most influential generation here today in terms of Filipino sexuality.

A Popcom report said: "The youth form the broad base of Philippine population. Here in the (Cordillera) region, 38 percent belong to the 0 to 14 age bracket. The productive age group of 15-64 years make up 58 percent while the remaining 4 percent make up the elderly group."

About 1.8 million Filipino males

and 70,000 females aged 15 to 24 are sexually active. In 1998, the median age at first sexual intercourse for women in the (Cordillera) was 20.7, a figure below the national median of 22.1 years. (But) about 5 million (out-of-school youths) have been vulnerable to teenage pregnancy.

"Eleven percent of female teenagers from rural areas are likely to become pregnant compared to only 5 percent in urban areas."

Cabutaje said this young generation "no longer listens to adults, whose (personal value systems) no longer rely on role models (from the older generations)."

She said media and global cultures play more substantial influence on sexual lifestyles. Under these conditions, divorce can be a pivotal measure when taken from the context that a divorce law "legitimizes what is already practiced," she said. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

## De Venecia not shoo-in for top House post

CANDON CITY—Ilocos Sur Rep. Eric Singson said Pangasinan Rep. Jose de Venecia is not yet assured of bagging the House speakership despite reportedly mustering more than 100 congressmen to his side.

"As of now, De Venecia has the edge but the situation is still volatile," Singson, a member of the Liberal Party, said.

Singson is a former close ally of De Venecia when De Venecia was Speaker during the 9th and 10th Congress but he is now supporting Batanes Rep. Florencio Abad for the speakership of the 12th Congress.

Singson claimed that many congressmen are still "undecided" on whom to vote for Speaker when the 12th Congress opens on July 23.

"Many congressmen are attending both meetings being requested by De Venecia and Abad," he said.

He said at least 80 congressmen have committed to vote for Abad.

Singson also said Abad is facing a dilemma in his bid for leadership of the House of Representatives.

"If he loses, he would certainly become the House minority leader and it would mean breaking up the People Power Coalition," Singson said.

He said Abad would also be going against the civil society groups that are supporting him but who wanted him to remain with the administration.

Singson said they are now receiving "more serious offers" from the De Venecia camp for a possible compromise on the House leadership fight.

De Venecia had said he was the ideal Speaker of the House because he could support the Macapagal administration's programs.

He cited his role in backing up the economic policies of the Ramos administration as one of the reasons that he deserved to be elected Speaker.

But one thing going against him is the perception that he is a "trap," or a traditional politician.

Critics of De Venecia said he should not be elected Speaker if the Macapagal administration was serious in adopting "new politics" as its policy in the House of Representatives.

Under De Venecia's rule, the House was embroiled in one scandal after another, the biggest of which is the controversy over pork barrel funds.

Should new polices prevail, De Venecia critics said Abad should be the ideal Speaker *Tonette Ongus with a report from Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

## Berroya told to give priority to war on 'jueteng'

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—Director General Leandro Mendoza, Philippine National Police chief, ordered Senior Supt. Reynaldo Berroya, newly appointed Central Luzon police director, to stop jueteng in Pampanga, the base of suspected gambling lord Rodolfo "Bong" Pineda.

"Stop jueteng. That's the very basic

instructions. Stop jueteng. Stop drugs. Stop criminals from doing their things," Mendoza told the INQUIRER when asked what his specific instructions were to Berroya.

Mendoza said Pineda, reportedly a friend of Berroya and who was also linked to President Macapagal, should go to jail if there is evidence to pin him down.

INQUIRER sources said those were the years that Pineda started and expanded the lucrative illegal numbers game.

"Hindi totoo yan (That's not true).

There are people who are trying to destroy me as early as now. Sana hirang kayong maniwala (I just hope that you won't believe these reports)," he said.

He did not say who his detractors were.

He also claimed that he was the "only one who stopped jueteng operations in Pampanga."

He said the allegations that he has maintained his links with Pineda have only convinced him to "do better in my new assignment."

"We will show them how good we will be," Berroya, a native of Bulacan,

BERROYA, in a separate interview, said it was not true that he supported Pineda when he was commander of the then Philippine Constabulary in Pampanga from 1985 to 1987.

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"We will show them how good we will be," Berroya, a native of Bulacan,

police headquarters.

Berroya said he would give equal attention to all provinces in the region despite his being a native of Bulacan.

Berroya's father, the late Col. Victorio Berroya, was the former chief of staff of Camp Olivas when it was still the base of the First Philippine Constabulary Zone that covered the Ilocos region, Cagayan Valley and Central Luzon in the late 1970s.

During the simple turnover rites, Mendoza referred several times to Berroya as his classmate.

The two belonged to Philippine Military Academy's Class 1969.

"Give Rey Berroya your help," Mendoza told some 200 police officials and personnel who gathered for the turnover rites.

He said Berroya was comfortable in Central Luzon since he grew up and lives in Bulacan, south of this regional

Berroya, accompanied by Mendoza, came here Friday to assume his post from Chief Supt. Enrique Galang Jr., who was reassigned to Bicol after serving the region for five months.

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During the program, Mendoza also referred to Berroya as "general" Mendoza said he has recommended his promotion.

He also told reporters that Berroya's Central Luzon assignment was a pro-

motion, an issue that the former PNP intelligence chief dodged early this week.

"This is a promotion for Rey Berroya because he is in command of the biggest region in the country. This is also one way of finding the right people for the right job," Mendoza said.

"(This is) not a demotion. A regional command is bigger than a national support unit (the intelligence group)."

Berroya shot down a plan of Gov. Manuel Lapid to make a film on the life of the 54-year-old controversial police officer.

"This is not the proper time," he said.

*Tonette Ongus with a report from Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

BERROYA

Mendoza

## Mindanao teachers trained on physics

TEACHERS from 13 tertiary schools in Mindanao acquired new skills in teaching college physics, an integral part of engineering courses, by participating in a recent five-day workshop on the complex subject.

The workshop, conducted by FUSE (Foundation for Upgrading the Standard of Education) and held at the aud-ovisua room of the Ateneo de Davao University, sought to adopt uniformity in the subject contents of college physics.

The 24 teacher-participants came from AMA Computer College in Davao and General Santos cities; Central Mindanao Colleges, K. Kapawan City; Davao Oriental State College of Science and Technology, Davao Merchant Marine College of Southern Philippines, MATS College of Technology, Notre Dame of Dadiangas, Notre Dame of Kidapawan College; Notre Dame University, Cotabato City; Ramon Magsaysay Memorial College, General Santos City; St. Mary's College, Tagum City; University of Mindanao; and University of Southern Mindanao.

The group took up instructional exercises on thermal dynamics, rotation of rigid bodies, momentum impulse and collision and manipulation of vectors. Included in the program were visual aid workshops and mathematical problems provided by trainers.

In a statement, FUSE said it plans to make a model out of the seminar's teaching materials, with the same syllabus and with the Department of Science and Technology as the proposed source of funds.

## TAX PRACTITIONERS SUPPORT BIR COMMISSIONER RENE G. BANEZ

THE TAX MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES, AN ASSOCIATION OF TAX LAWYERS AND ACCOUNTANTS, FULLY SUPPORTS BIR COMMISSIONER RENE BANEZ AND THE VARIOUS REFORMS HE IS CURRENTLY UNDERTAKING IN THE BIR. WE CONCUR WITH HIM THAT THE REFORMS ARE NECESSARY TO MAKE THE BIR A MORE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT TAX COLLECTION AGENCY AND ENSURE THE COLLECTION OF ITS GOAL FOR 2001.

WE SUPPORT COMMISSIONER BANEZ BECAUSE WE KNOW HIM PROFESSIONALLY, AS MOST OF OUR MEMBERS HAVE DEALT DIRECTLY WITH HIM EVEN DURING HIS PREVIOUS STINT AS BIR DEPUTY COMMISSIONER. WE ALL REGARDED HIM THEN, AS WE DO NOW, AS A SINCERE, HONEST, COMPETENT, HARD WORKING AND DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT.

WITH THIS STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR COMMISSIONER BANEZ, WE ALSO REITERATE OUR ASSOCIATION'S COMMITMENT TO ASSIST THE BIR IN ITS JUST EFFORTS TO COLLECT THE CORRECT TAXES DUE FROM TAXPAYERS AND THEREBY CONTRIBUTE TO OUR COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC PROGRESS AND STABILITY.

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Chairman

RUFINO S.B. JAVIER  
Commissioner  
LUZVIMINDA G. TANCANGCO  
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Commissioner



Republic of the Philippines  
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS

RULES AND REGULATIONS ON: (A) BEARING, CARRYING OR TRANSPORTING FIREARMS OR OTHER DEADLY WEAPONS; (B) SECURITY PERSONNEL OR BODYGUARDS; (C) BEARING ARMS BY ANY MEMBER OF SECURITY OR POLICE ORGANIZATION OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND OTHER SIMILAR ORGANIZATION OR ORGANIZATION OR MAINTENANCE OF REACTION FORCES IN CONNECTION WITH THE PLEBISCITE TO RATIFY THE AMENDMENTS TO THE ORGANIC ACT IN THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (REPUBLIC ACT 8745) ON AUGUST 14, 2001.

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 1000, dated July 20, 2001.

**RESOLUTION NO. 4511**

The Commission on Elections, by virtue of the power vested in it by the Constitution, the Omnibus Election Code, and other election laws, RESOLVED to promulgate as it hereby promulgates, the following rules and regulations to enforce the prohibited acts under Section 261 paragraphs (p), (q), (r), (s), (t) and (u) of the Omnibus Election Code and Section 32 and 33 of Republic Act No. 7166, in connection with the plebiscite to ratify the amendments to the Organic Act in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (Republic Act 8745) on August 14, 2001.

**SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** It is the policy of the Commission on Elections (Commission) to prohibit during the plebiscite period the bearing, carrying and transporting of firearms or deadly weapons by any person, and not to allow the employment of security personnel or bodyguards.

**SEC. 2. Prohibitions.** During the plebiscite period from June 30, 2001 to August 23, 2001 it shall be unlawful for:

- Any person, including those possessing a permit to carry firearms outside of residence or place of residence or place of business, to bear, carry or transport firearms or other deadly weapons in public places including any building, street, path, private vehicle or public conveyance. The term "Bear" includes alight;
- Any member or officer of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine National Police or any other law enforcement agency of the government, to bear firearms outside of their respective barracks, garrisons, camps, offices or such other military or police installations;
- Any member of security or police organization of government agencies, commissions, councils, bureaus, offices or government-owned or controlled corporations or privately-owned or operated security, investigative, protective or intelligence agencies, to bear firearms outside the immediate vicinity of its place of work and
- Any person to organize or maintain reactor bases, strike bases or similar bases;

**Sec. 3. Exemptions.** – The prohibitions in Section 2 hereof shall not apply in the following instances:

a) Officers or members of the AFP PNP or any law enforcement agency constituting the normal security personnel complement of the incumbent President, Vice President, Senate President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Secretary of National Defense, Secretary of the Interior and Local Government, Regional Governor of the ARMM, Chief of Staff of the AFP and AFP Major Service Commanders, Director General of the PNP and senior officers thereof while in actual performance of their duties.

Security officers shall include battalion commanders, group commanders, regimental commanders, brigade commanders, division commanders and their equivalents in the Navy and Air Force. Specified Command and AFP-wide Service Support Units, and those higher in the hierarchy of the AFP including all active generals and Provincial Directors, District Directors designated in the NCR, Regional Directors, and Directors of Intelligence Operations and administrative units and other Directors, Deputy Director Generals, and Director General within the General Headquarters-PNP and all members of the Committee on Firearms and Security Personnel constituted under Section 5 hereof;

b) Regular officers or members of the AFP and PNP and other law enforcement agencies of the government, except those who are under suspension and those assigned whom administrative or criminal charges have been filed, provided that when in the possession of firearms the law enforcement officer must bear: (1) in full uniform showing clearly and legibly his name, rank and serial number which shall remain visible at all times, (2) in the actual performance of duty in the specific area designated in the mission order approved by Commanding General or officer of the unit; and (3) going to or returning from residence/quarters;

c) Comptrollers and disbursing officers while in the performance of their duties if authorized in writing by the Commission specifically when said persons transport or disburse payrolls or deposit or carry large sums of money or other valuables;

d) Members of duly authorized security or police organizations of government agencies, commissions, councils, bureaus, offices, or government-owned or controlled corporations or privately-owned or operated security, investigative, protective or intelligence agencies in the actual performance in the specific areas of their assignments, of their duties with prior written authority from the Commission;

The exemption also applies to these personnel where:

- Pursuing a person committing or has just committed a crime in the premises being guarded;
- Actually escorting or providing security for the transport of payrolls, deposits or other valuables with prior written authority from the Commission;
- Guarding private residences, buildings or offices, with prior written authority of the Commission;
- With respect to guards of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology and provincial or city jails, only while according protection to and from prosecution officials, inmates or courts in compliance with subpoenas issued for the purpose, and with prior written authority of the Commission.

e) Members of the AFP and PNP:

i) When the President of the Philippines shall have given previous authority thereto, in the interest of preserving law and order, and the Commission so directed in writing;

ii) When authorized by the Commission, which shall issue the permit only if it is necessary for the maintenance of a free, orderly and honest elections;

iii) Other military or police personnel, including members of the AFP and PNP Intelligence units, such as the ISAPP and the AFPPSSU whose true names, rank and serial numbers are registered with the Commission;

iv) Regular agents of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) and NCIA when conducting legitimate official operations or missions with prior written specific authority of the Commission;

v) Members of the PNP, AFP or other law enforcement agencies of the government authorized to act as bodyguards of candidates of the conditions provided for herein;

vi) Security pertaining to accredited members of the diplomatic and consular personnel and establishments governed by international law, provided that an official list of the security personnel for the diplomatic offices and establishments be furnished the Commission;

The exemption extended to members of the AFP, PNP and other government personnel shall be limited to government-issued firearms(s) in their name and covered by the proper Memorandum Receipt or other official documents for the purpose.

**SEC. 4. Suspension of permits to carry firearms and issuance of rotation orders and memorandum receipts.** During the plebiscite period, the sole authority to issue permits to carry firearms outside residence or place of business shall be vested in the Commission. For the purpose:

a) Any permit to Carry Firearms Under Regulation (PTCFOR), Mission Orders (MO), and Memorandum Receipt (MR), issued prior to the effectiveness of this Resolution and covered by the prohibition are hereby declared suspended and without force and effect.

b) During the plebiscite period, all authority to issue MO and MR to civilians pursuant to Sections 4 and 5 of the Rules and Regulations Implementing P.D. 882 dated June 23, 1982 (Codifying the Law on Registration and Possession of Firearms) are hereby suspended.

c) The PNP is hereby directed to submit to the Commission, a complete list of all PTCFOR or similar authorization issued to civilian and members of authorized security agencies within two (2) days from the effectiveness hereto. Within the same period, the AFP and the Department of National Defense shall submit a complete list of all MR and MO or similar authorization issued to civilians. Likewise, within the same period, the NBI shall submit a complete list of MR and MO or similar authorization issued to its regular agents.

However, the Director General, Philippine National Police, through the Chief, Firearms and Explosives Division, may continue to process and approve licenses for possession of firearms. The firearm shall be kept in deposit with Firearms and Explosives Division unless its delivery to the licensee is authorized in writing by the Commission.

**SEC. 5. Committee on Firearms and security personnel.** A Committee on Firearms and Security Personnel (Committee) composed of a Chairman, a vice-chairman, one (1) representative from the PNP, and one (1) representative from the AFP, as members, which shall determine whether or not an applicant for authority to carry, bear or transport firearms, or for the employment of security personnel falls within the exception provided for herein.

**SEC. 6. Procedure for exemptions.** – Any person seeking (a) authority to carry firearms outside his residence or place of business under the Omnibus Election Code or (b) exemption from the prohibition on bearing, carrying or transporting firearms under Republic Act No. 7166, shall file with the Committee or through the Regional Election Director concerned a written request for exemption in three (3) copies, stating his full name and exact place of residence and/or business, official receipt number, date of payment of firearm tax, and such other data as may be required by the Commission. All applications filed with the Regional Election Director shall be forwarded immediately to the Committee.

The Committee shall process the application in accordance with the policies herein set forth. After processing the application, the Committee shall either deny or approve the application. If approved, the Committee shall issue a written authority in three (3) copies, to be distributed as follows: the original, to the applicant, the second copy, to the Law Department, and the third copy, to be retained by the Committee.

The decision of the Committee shall be appealable to the Commission En Banc whose decision shall be final.

**SEC. 7. Application for security personnel or bodyguards.** – Under the same procedure prescribed in the immediately preceding section, when circumstances so warrant, including but not limited to threats to life and security of the proponents, or opponents, or government officials, or individual persons, the Committee may authorize the Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines or Director General, Philippine National Police to assign not more than two (2) regular members of the AFP or PNP, as such security, or the NBI Director to assign one (1) or more regular agents of said agency, who shall provide him security, at any time and for the ground for which the authority to engage the services of security personnel has been granted that cause to exist, or for any valid cause, the Commission shall revoke the authority granted.

In processing applications, the Committee shall take into consideration reports from the AFP and PNP, as well as reports from Complainants or any community organization on the insurgency situation of the area and similar peace and order circumstances.

**SEC. 8. Confiscation of Firearms.** – During the plebiscite period, the Commission may order the disarmed units of the PNP or the AFP when necessary, to effect the confiscation of firearms, or any equipment of the AFP, police force, home defense forces and all other para-military units that now exist or which may hereafter be organized, or any member or members of security or police organization, government departments, commissions, councils, bureaus, office instrumentalities, or government-owned or controlled corporations and other subsidiaries or any member of privately-owned or operated security, investigative, protective or intelligence agencies performing identical or similar functions and disarm all such persons who do not possess the necessary authorization from the Commission to carry or possess or import firearms.

**SEC. 9. Prohibited organization or maintenance of reaction forces, strike forces, or other similar forces.** – During the plebiscite period, it shall be unlawful for any person to organize or maintain any reaction force, strike force, citizen security force or similar force. Any of said forces which is now existing is hereby ordered disarmed immediately. All the members thereof shall return immediately their firearms, magazines, uniforms, or uniforms to the proper office or officer issuing them.

**SEC. 10. Immediate action.** – The heads of all such reaction forces, strike forces or similar forces shall submit to the Commission, through the Regional Election Director, in three (3) legible copies, a complete list of all members thereof, stating their full names, exact address, ranks, appointment papers or designations and nature and extent of their functions. The Regional Election Directors shall immediately after receipt forward to the Commission copies of said lists, retaining a copy thereof.

**SEC. 11. Progress reports.** – For purposes of effectively enforcing the foregoing provisions, the PNP and AFP through the Director General and Chief of Staff, respectively, shall submit to the Commission progress reports beginning July 20, 2001 during the plebiscite period, covering the following:

- Current status of the enforcement (i.e., number of arrests, number of surrenders, number of confiscated firearms, etc.) of the prohibition on the unauthorized carrying, bearing and transporting of firearms, and
- The peace and order situation in various parts of the country, including insurrection, the existence and size of private armies, the intensity of political violence and other circumstances, that may affect the conduct of the plebiscite.

**SEC. 12. Scope/coverage of Application.** – This resolution shall apply only in the plebiscite areas.

**SEC. 13. Effectivity.** – This resolution shall take effect after seven days from its publication in two (2) daily newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

**SEC. 14. Dissemination.** – The Education and Information Department shall cause the publication of this resolution in two (2) daily newspapers of general circulation and give the same the widest dissemination possible. The Executive Director shall furnish copies of this resolution to the Secretary of the Department of National Defense, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, the Department of Justice, the Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines, the Director-General of the Philippine National Police and the Director of the National Bureau of Investigation.

SO ORDERED.

ALFREDO L. BENIPAYO  
Chairman

LUZVINDA G. TANCANGCO  
Commissioner  
RALPH G. TEARTON  
Commissioner  
RESURRECCION Z. BORRA  
Commissioner

RUFINO S.B. JAVIER  
Commissioner  
MENOR F. SADAIN  
Commissioner  
FLORENTINO A. TEASON, JR.  
Commissioner

(PD - July 20, 2001)

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2001



# Pilot offers Moi joyride in the clouds

(From page A1)

himself with plane parts," said De la Ramos, 32, himself a graduate of the PSCA.

School officials readily approved of the flight. So did Moi's father, Eric, who's assistant manager of Globe Paper Mills. Moi is the 12th of 13 children.

"At first he was apprehensive and then he became very happy," his sister, Dr. Bena Tenorio, said of Moi's response to the prospect of flying. His fixation on being a pilot has been inspired by his eldest brother, Alarico, an aeronautics engineer with the US Air Force. Alarico indulges his younger brother's dream by plying him with toy planes and pictures of planes.

## Fees waived

The PSCA is going all-out for Moi. The standard procedure is that only incoming students can avail of the school's discovery flight. They are charged P4,000 (locals) and \$100 (foreigners) each per hour. But the school is waiving the fees.

De la Ramos said he planned to fly Moi in the school's five-seater training aircraft, STB9C, for at least an hour over Metro Manila on a clear Saturday morning next month.

The boy will be seated right beside De la Ramos during the discovery flight. While strapped to his seat,



DREAMY backdrop at the Naia for Moises Tenorio who has a passion for flying.

ROGER MARGALIO

he can hold the plane's "other control as if he himself is flying the plane," De la Ramos said.

"I pitied the boy. I know exactly how he felt when he said he wanted to fly a plane someday. The moment I read the article I told myself 'I'm going to fly that boy,'" he said in a phone interview.

On Thursday, the INQUIRER had featured on Page 1 Moi's tour inside the Ninoy Aquino International Airport on Tuesday. Still under medication, Moi had asked to be brought to the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia) to get a close look of commercial and cargo airplanes.

"I pitied the boy. I know exactly how he felt when he said he wanted to fly a plane someday. The moment I read the article I told myself 'I'm going to fly that boy,'" he said in a phone interview.

## Naia tour

With the help of the Naia Public Affairs Office, Moi got his wish last Tuesday. He got an extra treat. On the day that he was at the airport, Moi saw the C-5 Galaxy, the US Air Force's largest aircraft, which made a refueling stop here.

With his sister, Dr. Tenorio, nurse Mona Mendoza and PAO staffer Teter Gaerlan, Moi toured the departure, arrival, customs and immigration areas. At the Hariaya restaurant on the fourth floor, Moi had an unobstructed view of planes landing and taking off.

"I want to become a pilot someday," Moi said, "that's why I wanted to see the planes and facilities here," said Moi excitement building up in his voice.

The boy, who was diagnosed with brain tumor last October, has had to quit school. For four months, he had to undergo four cycles of chemotherapy and, later, 30 days of radiation therapy.

So far, the chemotherapy had caused the tumor to regress by 50 percent, according to his sister. Next month, he's scheduled for a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) to determine his body's response to radiation therapy.

Before De la Ramos' offer came, the family of Moi had been planning to take the boy on a tour of the United States if the results of his radiation therapy would be positive.

# What Drives You



## Performance.

There are great demands on people in my line of work. I travel almost 400 kilometers a day – road or no road – visiting provinces for medical missions and relief operations. It's tough, even for my 4x4 vehicle. That's why I insist on using only the best diesel engine oil – DELO. With DELO, my engine runs smoother and I can go anywhere to perform my duties without worry.

Jan Pablo Roa

Rimpay Bondoc

Congressman

4th District, Pampanga



What Drives You CALTEX

## PPC unity in House; wobbly in Senate

(From page A1)

The source said the four senators would rather declare themselves independent, which would lead to a breakup of the PPC. Of the 24 senators, 12 belong to the PPC.

"If he gets the pro-Estrada senators, what would happen to new politics (being espoused by the Macapagal administration)? Now that the elections are over, we will sleep with the enemy?" the source said.

It was also learned yesterday that President Macapagal-Arroyo, in a meeting at the Palace on Wednesday, asked the group of Arroyo, Villar, Pangilinan and Recto to support Drilon.

"The President wants the new senators to prop him (Drilon) up. So that was a non-beneficial meeting," another source said.

Also ranking the new senators is that Drilon had reportedly "committed" the finance committee to Sen. John Osmeña, a pro-Estrada turned independent senator, and Senate president pro-tempore to Sen. Loren Legarda-Leviste of Lakas.

The bloc of Arroyo, Villar, Pangilinan and Recto believe that such a powerful committee should be given to a PPC senator.

The Arroyo bloc reportedly wants the posts of Senate president pro-tempore and the finance committee for themselves.

### Alienating neophytes

The first source said Drilon could get elected through the votes of 12 PPC members, including himself, if he had not alienated the four neophyte PPC senators.

The source said that the initial agreement among the PPC members

was to get just one senator from the opposition to have the majority of 13 votes required to elect the Senate president. The source said that PPC senators had agreed to get the senator from the opposition who is "the least controversial."

### GMA to blame

The source said the President was to blame should the PPC breaks up.

"The intervention of the President will be the cause of a breakup. If she stuck to the June 30 agreement, this will not happen," the source said.

On June 30, the President summoned the four PPC contenders for the Senate presidency—Drilon, Arroyo, Senators Rene Cayetano and Aquilino Pimentel, who was represented by his daughter Gwen.

During that meeting, she reportedly said that the 12 PPC senators should "agree among yourselves" who would be Senate president.

"That is internal, just among the 12. There was to be no crossing the lines (to get from the opposition)," the source said.

To resolve the contest, the source said, a straw vote was to be conducted with the names of the four PPC aspirants to the Senate leadership. The two who had the least number of votes would drop out and the top two would then decide who between them should be the PPC candidate.

The source said the straw vote would have resulted in Arroyo and Cayetano becoming the top two because each have four allies. The source said Drilon and Pimentel have "no following."

"It never reached that point," the source said because Drilon "knew he had no chance and rejected the

straw vote."

The source said there were talks between Drilon, Cayetano and Arroyo to resolve the contest within the PPC.

"But while they were talking, the President entered the picture and endorsed Drilon. That is why it turned this way," the source said.

Last week, the President had admitted in a press conference that she supports Drilon though "not in public."

### "Victory party"

As for the speakership fight, her spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said it "looks" like De Venecia would be it.

The President herself was set to grace a fellowship dinner last night at De Venecia's Dasmanias Village residence for the 228 elected members of the House of Representatives.

Tiglao would not call it a "victory party" of sorts for De Venecia, Lakas secretary general, to celebrate his appointment by the President.

"A fellowship dinner means time to socialize, time to meet everybody," Tiglao said.

It may as well be a celebration for PPC unity after Abad announced his withdrawal from the race for Speaker, paving the way for the overwhelming election of De Venecia when Congress opens on Monday.

"I am doing this without any concessions, conditions nor rancor," the Batanes congressman told House reporters in a hastily called press conference.

He said he was withdrawing his bid for speakership in a bid to re-unify the PPC in the House which had been splintered over issues of power-sharing and the House leadership.

"All's well that ends well. Now that we're all back in one team, let's start work," said De Venecia.

Surigao del Norte Rep. Robert Ace Barbers, a De Venecia supporter, heaped praise on Abad who "showed great sportsmanship and statesmanship."

"This turn of events speaks well of what the people can expect from the 12th Congress in terms of unity and teamwork," Barbers said.

Abad, president of the Liberal Party, was the only remaining stumbling block to De Venecia's bid to reclaim the speakership which he also held in the ninth and 10th Congress.

### LDP: Minority party

The realignment of LP with the PPC now leaves the 40-member strong Lahan ng Demokratikong Pilipino as the only minority group in the House.

Abad had earlier stood his ground in the speakership race, maintaining that he represented "New Politics" in the House as against De Venecia, who's widely perceived as a traditional politician.

But De Venecia's allies were quick to dismiss his claim after Abad reportedly asked for the chairmanship of the powerful House committee on appropriations in exchange for his withdrawal from the race.

De Venecia tried to hammer out a compromise agreement. But there had been a previous commitment to install Camarines Sur Rep. Rotando Andaya Jr as chair of the committee on appropriations.

Up to last Tuesday, Abad had announced that he would remain in the speakership race.

### Praise

"All's well that ends well. Now that we're all back in one team, let's start work," said De Venecia.

Surigao del Norte Rep. Robert Ace Barbers, a De Venecia supporter, heaped praise on Abad who "showed great sportsmanship and statesmanship."

"This turn of events speaks well of what the people can expect from the 12th Congress in terms of unity and teamwork," Barbers said.

The ideal is still trim and fit, they said.

## Shell cuts fuel price by 20 centavos

BY RONNELL W. DOMINGO

**PILIPINAS Shell Petroleum Corp.** cut the price of gasoline by 20 centavos per liter and of diesel and kerosene by 15 centavos per liter effective midnight last night.

The oil firm, which led the price increases in July by 37 centavos per liter, said in a statement the new prices were based on crude cost of \$23.53 per barrel and an exchange rate of

P53.15 to the dollar.

However, Pilipinas Shell vice president Reynaldo Gamboa warned that "the pressures on crude prices and the peso-dollar exchange rates are still very real."

Gamboa noted that the coming winter months could influence higher crude prices, as well as the current slide of the peso.

The last time oil prices were slashed was on Jan. 9 by 60 centavos per liter.

## Fat, fit and happy

(From page A1)

whether obesity was measured by a body mass index (weight in kilograms divided by height in meters squared) or by the percentage of body fat relative to muscle and bone. This means that the results were not due to heavy people simply being well muscled, Blair said.

People with a body mass index of 30 or more are considered obese.

### Daily walks

Blair said 30 minutes of moderate walking every day, at 5 or 6 kilometers an hour, would make most obese people fit.

"To put yourself in our top fitness category you might walk more vigorously and add a couple of games of tennis during weekends," he said.

Some other fitness experts recommend 60 minutes a day of exercise for health.

"I don't mean it eliminates the risk of everything, but you can stay overweight and obese if you are fit and be just as healthy, in terms of mortality risk, as a lean fit person," Blair said.

"When they talk about the health risks of obesity, they usually talk about heart disease, diabetes—the big killers," he said.

"We have also looked at disease rates, particularly diabetes. The phenomenon holds there too, that the obese individuals who are fit develop diabetes at about the same rate as the lean individuals who are unfit," he said.

People might still want to shed pounds for other reasons—so that they can fit more comfortably into an airline seat or to stop others from discriminating against them, Blair said.

"I'm inclined to agree with that. I don't think that carrying around a lot of fat, in itself, is necessarily detrimental because a number of large people are very vigorous," said John E. Blundell, chair of psychobiology at the University of Leeds in England.

"Thin and active is probably the optimal because that way you are no longer a target of the culture, you don't receive that psychological damage of being stigmatized," he said.

AP

## 2 loyal military officers promoted

(From page A1)

and whom the President later praised for his performance.

Santiago now heads the AFP Visayas Command, replacing the retired Maj Gen. Julius Javier.

Both men are graduates of the Philippine Military Academy—Lorenzana in 1973, and Santiago in 1970.

Military insiders said Santiago's promotion as Viscom chief was "a stepping stone" for his likely appointment as commanding general of the Army.

Lorenzana's former command, the AFP Light Armor Brigade, has been taken over by Col. Pedro Cabuyan, an integrer who entered the military service in 1973.

The low-profile Cabuyan is the former commander of the 201st Brigade based in Quezon province.

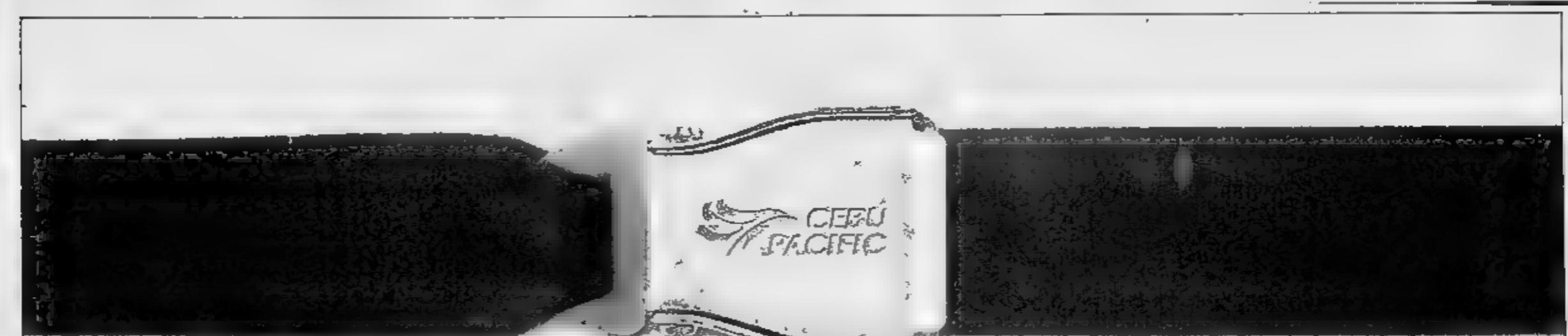
Insiders describe Cabuyan as "a seasoned intelligence man," "a very professional officer," and having an "untainted name."

The Socom and the Light Armor Brigade are specialized corps outside the regular infantry and are the AFP's cutting-edge fighting units.

"These are shock troops that can be relied on during times of crisis," a military source said.



REACTING to the continuing crackdown on the Abu Sayyaf, unidentified Muslim leaders thumb down President Macapagal's policy



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# Peso bounces back to 53.20 against \$1

(From page A1)

central bank will provide more liquidity in the market to curb speculative attacks," he told reporters.

"The central bank has been providing liquidity but the message has not been received well," Camacho added.

The finance secretary, however, brushed aside speculation that Malacañang's decision to cooperate with the BSP was aimed at propping up the peso in time for the President's State of the Nation Address on Monday.

## First time

"The move was intended to address the situation. It had nothing to do with the SONA," Camacho said.

Whatever his statement marked the first time a senior government official admitted the central bank had intervened in the foreign exchange market to defend the peso since its recent fall began.

Even though the BSP repeatedly denied intervening in the past few days, traders suspected that the central bank was in the market.

## Message

Camacho blamed speculators for pulling the peso down. From January to July 17, the local currency had fallen by about 7.7 percent.

"There had been extreme, un-

necessary speculation. We want to send the message across that people must not trade against their own currency, especially if it is not based on fundamentals," Camacho added.

Speaking on local television, Buenaventura said newspaper reports that the government was likely to revise its 2001 deficit target to P180 billion had "spooked the market," prompting the sharp fall in the peso.

Subsequently, Camacho clarified the government was sticking to its target of P145 billion for the year and that helped ease the pressure on the peso.

But Buenaventura said, "you cannot expect monetary policy to do all the job."

He said Camacho outlined the government's measures to keep the deficit in check, including a forthcoming \$500-million bond offering as well as the possibility of securitizing royalties from the Malampaya gas project and income from state gaming operations.

"All those steps to some extent will relieve government borrowings, particularly on the domestic side, and provide much needed dollars for the central bank," Buenaventura said.

The government also agreed to let Treasury bill rates align with

the central bank's overnight rates for the peso, he said.

The 91-day T-bill had fetched rates lower than the bank's key overnight borrowing rate of 9 percent in recent weeks.

"I hope the market takes our move as a signal that the BSP and the national government are in sync with what's going on and what needs to be done," Camacho said.

## No rate hike

Buenaventura declined to comment on market rumors that the central bank might raise commercial banks' liquidity reserve requirements to siphon off liquidity and dampen speculation against the peso.

He said the bank was not considering raising overnight rates to bolster the peso.

"Of course if the deficit is not contained, then there is a danger that interest rates would go up," he said.

"If the exchange rate remains at these high levels, eventually it will have an impact on our inflation and it could put pressure again on our interest rates but raising interest rates to defend the peso is clearly not an option at this time."

The bank's policy-setting Monetary Board left rates unchanged at

its regular meeting on Thursday.

Asked whether the government was thinking of imposing capital controls to halt the currency decline, Buenaventura said: "The only one who can impose such controls is the central bank and you know I would never do that."

Among other measures for the peso, the Monetary Board approved the expansion of the coverage of the central bank's NDF facility and allowed banks to enter into long-term cross-currency basis swaps with foreign investors.

The facility will now be available to net importers, registered foreign currency-denominated bonds and foreign loans with original maturity of up to five years, trade transactions of bank clients from manufacturing firms.

The facility was previously open only to oil importers and holders of short-term foreign currency loans of up to one year, and foreign currency import bills, and dollar trust receipts.

## Higher imports

Buenaventura explained that the dollar supply dwindled in May when imports grew by 10 percent and exports rose by only 9 percent.

"The May figures already reflected an imbalance. This meant there were more dollar requirements than potential inflow," he said.

portfolio investments stopped coming in.

"All these factors led to an increased dollar buying activity from the spot market," Buenaventura said.

Traders said the peso would continue to improve ahead of the President's SONA on Monday. With reports by Reuters and AFP

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# What Drives You



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What Drives You



CALTEX

**SPECIAL Cabinet meeting is held at the Palace with President Macapagal and Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo on Thursday to fine-tune her State of the Nation Address.**

## Businessmen still upbeat on GMA, says Palace

(From page A1)

III rallies. It was a big blow to political stability," Tiglao said.

Biazon said the economy's real problem might be Ms Macapagal's "obsessive adherence" to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the country's accession to the World Trade Organization.

The GATT spells out how the Philippines will open up its industries to global trade.

It was Ms Macapagal who sponsored the ratification of the GATT when she was a senator, according to Biazon.

Biazon said Ms Macapagal must study his resolution calling for a series of meetings with the political opposition to review the country's commitments to the GATT.

The Institute for Popular Democracy (IPD) is asking Ms Macapagal to use her State of the Nation Address (SONA) on Monday to announce substantive reforms that her allies in civil society are urging her to implement.

"She should show what political risks she is willing to take and not just be a wheeling and dealing President," said Joel Rocamora, political analyst and IPD executive director.

"We have a President who has played a *segurista* game. This is her chance to assert that she intends to be a real leader instead of just being an accidental President," said Rocamora.

## Willing to be surprised

He said he was still hopeful that six months after coming to power, the President might come out with a viable if not ambitious reform agenda on Monday.

"I am willing to be surprised. In fact, I would love to be surprised," he said.

The IPD noted that the President used the first few months of her administration to accommodate the different actors who helped her come to power.

Maria Teresa Melgar, head of IPD's Democracy Watch Department, said this was done to provide stability and to consolidate the new administration.

"We think that was necessary given the unusual circumstances in which Ms Macapagal came to power. (But) she should change her posture now in favor of putting more substance to her earlier pronouncements of 'good governance,'" Melgar said.

She said that People Power II was not just about transparency or anti-corruption. It was also a "new way of doing politics."

McGee said that the badly needed reforms could be implemented under the traditional system of patronage politics.

"It's like what happened before. We thought that when Estrada fell last January, our problem with him was over. But his arrest gave way to attempts to bring this government down through the law."

"If there is political instability, it will hit investors' confidence," he said.

Tiglao said the situation could be compared with the term of former President Corazon Aquino. At that time, optimism was high because of the downfall of the dictator Ferdinand Marcos, according to Tiglao.

But he said a series of coup d'état against the Aquino administration brought the economy to its knees.

"It's like what happened before. We thought that when Estrada fell last January, our problem with him was over. But his arrest gave way to attempts to bring this government down through the law."

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"It's like what happened before. We thought that when Estrada fell last January, our problem with him was over. But his arrest gave way to attempts to bring this government down through the law."

ABA OFFICIAL IRKED

# Lipa outburst spoils Ateneo victory

## PBA sudden death today

### Stage set for All Star

THE PBA All Star Weekend this year promises to be one slam-bang affair, with the biggest names in the league from all 10 teams seeing action in the All-Star Game itself and the special events that precede it during the traditional Fans' Day tomorrow.

Alvin Patrimonio of Purefoods, the only active four-time winner of the Most Valuable Player trophy, will be there. Not just in the game, but also in the highly popular 2-Ball Contest together with Rey Evangelista.

Olsen Racela of San Miguel has signed for the Buzzer-Beater contest and will be contending with the likes of Jimwell Tenorio of Red Bull and Jay Jay Heltbrand, even as Dwight Lago looms as the favorite in the 3-Point Shootout together with crowd darling Mark Caguioa of Barangay Ginebra.

The Araneta Coliseum gates for Fans' Day open at 11 a.m. tomorrow as the Office of the Commissioner has lined up several events for the fans to participate in.

"We have always said that we owe everything to the fans. The PBA will not be here if it were not for the support that they have given us through all of our 26 years," said Sonny Barrios, the league's Officer-in-Charge in the absence of Commissioner Jun Bernardino.

"This is but the PBA's small way of giving them something back."

The highlight of All-Star Fans'

Day will be the elimination rounds of the 2-Ball and 3-Point Shootout, with the teams of Patrimonio and Evangelista of Purefoods and Kenneth Duremdes and Rodney Santos of Alaska tagged as favorites.

Boyet Fernandez of Purefoods will be there to defend his 3-Point Shootout title, going up against Caguioa, Dwight Lago and Patrick Fran of Mobile.

And one of them stands out as the darkhorse who could very well upset the established stars in the most exciting side event of them all.

Joey Mente, San Miguel's third-string guard, is entered in the Siam Dunk contest which will be held before the game on Sunday at the Araneta Coliseum, and from the way staff of the Beermen describe his skills, Mente could well be the favorite come the event.

And San Miguel team manager Robert Nonu confirmed this.

"You should see the guy (Mente) do his stuff with the basketball and go for a slam," Nonu said. "He's a very creative fellow. He reminds me a lot of Spud Webb when Webb won the NBA Siam Dunk contest a few years back."

Mente could stand to be a shade under 5-foot-10, but the spring in his legs is phenomenal, according to Nonu, and the likes of John Hatley Argo of Alaska, Alex Crisano of Ginebra and Davon Harp of Red Bull are in for a good fight.

GAMES TODAY (Astrodome)  
5:15 p.m.—Pop Cola vs Tanduay (for 7<sup>th</sup>)  
7:30 p.m.—Mobile vs Shell (for 8<sup>th</sup>)

BY MARC ANTHONY REYES

DOUBLE sudden deaths.

That's what four teams desperate to make the quarterfinals will have to go through today in the PBA Commissioner's Cup at the Astrodome.

Pop Cola and Tanduay dispute the No. 7 seat, while Mobile and Shell contend for the 8<sup>th</sup> spot in the next round to complete the eight-team cast in the quarterfinals.

The first six slots are already occupied by defending champion San Miguel Beer, Purefoods, Batang Red Bull, Alaska Milk, Sta. Lucia and Barangay Ginebra, in that order.

League rules state that SMB will tangle with whichever team wins in the Pop Cola-Tanduay match-up at 5:15 p.m., while Purefoods will face the victor in the Mobile-Shell tussle at 7:30 p.m.

The Thunder will square off with the Gin Kings, while the Aces will take on the Realtors. SMB, Purefoods, Red Bull and Alaska will have twice-to-beat privileges by virtue of their superior standings at the end of the elimination.

Among the four teams in danger, Tanduay and Shell carry better credentials.

Though the Rhumasters are coming from a 104-98 loss to Red Bull, they still look in better shape than the Panthers, who, despite heavy build-up during the pre-season, still can't stop their downward spiral.

The Turbochargers are trying to make a monumental reversal in facing the inconsistent Phone Pals, who still can't make things right despite the return of Asi Taulava.

Mobile only has one win to show in the six games Taulava played.

GAMES TOMORROW (Loyola Gym)  
2 p.m.—UST vs Adamson (Srs.)  
4 p.m.—La Salle vs UE (Srs.)

BY DENNIS U. EROA

ATENEAO continued to weave magic against National University, escaping with a hard-earned, 68-60 triumph yesterday for its first win in the UAAP Men's Basketball championship at the Loyola Gym.

Playing in front of a highly partisan crowd, the Blue Eagles refused to be intimidated by the Bulldogs' growing reputation as they controlled the tempo of the game in a big rebound after losing, 91-76, to La Salle last Sunday.

But the victory wasn't free of controversy.

Obviously stung by an INQUIRER exclusive report regarding a move to replace him, Ateneo coach Joe Lipa refused to shake hands with this reporter after the game.

Fuming, Lipa also challenged this reporter to a fight outside the gym.

But the proverbial cooler heads kept the situation under control.

Said Lipa to this reporter: "Marame ka nang stras sa akin sa PBL pa lang."

Lipa's outburst did not sit well with Chot Reyes of the organizing Asian Basketball Academy, which was hired to handle this year's UAAP season.

The INQUIRER report appearing in yesterday's issue, which was confirmed by an Ateneo insider, said that Lipa must beat NU and FEU to keep his job.

Lipa also begged off from attending yesterday's regular post-game interview.

Lipa's unfortunate action spoiled an otherwise triumphant day for the Blue Eagles, who blunted the Bulldogs' repeated rallies with clutch shooting by rookie Lewis Tenorio, Paul Tan Chi and Larry Fonacier.

Earlier, the defending champions Ateneo Blue Eagles surged to their second straight win by humbling the NU Bullpups, 76-42.

In the other senior game, FEU downed University of the Philippines, 75-68, for its second straight win.

First Game

ATENEAO 68—Tenorio 18, Villanueva 17, Alvarez 10, Sison 9, Fonacier 5, Cruz 3, Tan Chi 2, Elmido 2, Membrera 2, Bugia 0.

NU 60—De Castro 14, Manabat 8, Grijaldo 8, Napa 7, Neo 7, Tolentino 5, Cayabyab 5, Mendoza 4, Begallon



LIPA: Outburst was conduct unbecoming a coach

0, Urbano 0.

Quarters: 18-10, 36-28, 53-42, 58-60.

Second Game

FEU 75—Avelido 19, Roidan 15, Catil 11, Conio 8, Castro 8, Miranda 5, Isip 4, Zebian 2, Jones 2, Tolentino 1, Chavez 0.

UP 68—Bravo 25, Nunag 14, Santos 8, Madarang 6, Robie 5, Bonancio 4, Jornales 3, Cervantes 3, Almeda 0, Quebral 0, Celio 0.

Quarters: 16-10, 43-23, 59-46, 75-68

### Cagayan to host 3 on 3 tomorrow

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—The Nike 3 on 3 basketball championship resumes tomorrow, with Sacred Heart of Jesus defending its crown at the Asian College of Science and Technology.

Liceo de Cagayan University, which SHJ dethroned last year, leads the cast of challengers vying to represent the city in the national finals slated Aug. 18 at SM Megamall.

The other participating schools are Angelicum Learning School, Cagayan Capitol College, Corpus Christi School, Golden Heritage Polytechnic School, Iligan Institute of Technology, Immanuel Mission School, International School, Kong Hua School, Lourdes College, Mary Mount Academy, Misamis Oriental Comprehensive High School, Montessori de Oro, Oro Christian Grace School, Pilgrim Christian College, St. Mary's Academy, St. Mary's School, St. Michael College-Cagayan City and Xavier University.

The field has been divided into four groups with the topnotcher in each group advancing into the cross-over semifinals. The semifinal winners then clash for the P12,000 worth of Nike products and a seat in the national finals.

Expected to grace the events are city councilor Benito Benaldo, Nike Sports marketing manager Auty Villarama, Nike Sports marketing coordinator Rely San Agustin and Nike Area Coordinator Edgardo "Boy" Dacoco. Rev. Father George Holstein, a prish priest of St. Agustin Cathedral, will give the invocation in the opening ceremony.

### Lhuillier beats Chariot

CEBU CITY—Former Shell import Bobby Parks flashed his old form as M. Lhuillier overpowered archrival Chariot Skyro via a lopsided 109-73 victory yesterday in the Cebu Basketball League Commissioners Cup at the New Cebu Coliseum.

It was the first setback for the Chariot in three games, and could still finish second if they beat Dazz tonight.

Parks scored 32 points as he became a one-man army taking charge of the Jewelers' offense, forcing the Road Kings to leave the court like battered warriors.

Couch Raul "Yayoy" Alcoseba recalled Parks on the bench only with six minutes to go when Lhuillier was already beyond reach.

### TEAM STANDING W

	L
Negros	9
LBC Batangas	6
Andok's San Juan	7
Cebuana Lhuillier	8
Fedex Laguna	4
Nueva Ecija	2
Davao	2
Soccsargen	2

GAMES TODAY (Sta. Cruz, Laguna)

3 p.m.—Davao vs LBC Batangas

5:30 p.m.—Andok's San Juan vs Fedex Laguna

FEDEX Laguna hopes to solidify its hold of the last spot in the Magic 5 as it clashes with defending champion Andok's San Juan today in the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the 2001 MBA season at the San Luis Sports Complex in Sta. Cruz.

The win snapped the Dolphins' two-game losing streak.

Luton trimmed San Beda, 85-77, in the other seniors' tussle. The Knights improved to 2-1 while the Red Lions slipped to 1-2.

Scores:

PCU 68—Franco 22, Ahmed 12, Omol 10, Sanz 7, Gaudia 6, Roque 5, Geipi 4, Agahan 2, Bagan 0, Dala 0.

ST. BENILDE 64—Magsumbol 18, Salvacion 13, Menor 10, Salvador 9, Magpayo 6, Tolentino 3, Capall 2, Castro 2, Coching 2, Mendoza 1, Perias 0, Reyes 0.

Quarterscores: 21-8, 31-26, 44-48, 68-64

BY JUNE NAVARRO

PHILIPPINE Christian University made a living at the free throw area to upset defending champion College of St. Benilde, 68-64, yesterday in the NCAAB basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Skippers Omar Asmar and Joseph Roque took turns at the stripe, sinking five of the eight freebies. The Dolphins got to outlast the Blazer and score the breakthrough win.

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**RP keglers snare gold**

THE PHILIPPINE national youth bowling team bagged a gold medal in the boys doubles event in the 11th WTBA Asian Youth Tenpin Bowling Championships held in Dubai recently. Frederick Ong and Gino Mansikang dominated the boys singles with a total of 2545 pinsfalls to edge Australia and Malaysia in this tournament participated in by youth bowlers from 16 countries from Asia.

**ROUND-OF-32**

# Reyes, Andam, Lining in

**EFREN "Bata" Reyes, Leonardo Andam and Antonio Lining reached the Round-of-32 as upsets rocked the 2001 Admiral World Pool Championship Wednesday at the Cardiff International Arena in Cardiff, Wales.**

Showing the form that catapulted him to victory in 1999, Reyes mastered Singapore's Triong Boon Tan, 9-3, to stay at the helm of the Philippines' challenge, which also got a boost from Andam and Lining.

Andam subdued John Younger of Austria, 9-5, while Lining edged Hisashi Yamamoto of Japan, 9-8.

Django Bustamante and Ramil Gallego were not lucky, though.

Bustamante absorbed a 6-9 loss to Tony Drago of Malta, while Gallego also fell to veteran Earl Strickland of the United States, 8-9.

As the smoke of battle in the Round-of-64 cleared, Strickland found himself the only player among last year's top four finishers to advance to the next round.

Defending champion Fong Pang Chao, the Taiwanese dubbed "Stone-Faced Killer," was stunned by little-known Briton Anthony Ginn,

9-8, while 2000 runner-up Ismael Paes of Mexico crashed out after a 9-7 setback to world junior champion Dimitri Jungo of Switzerland. Billiard Congress of America 9-ball champion Corey Deuel was eliminated earlier by Mika Immonen of Finland, 9-3.

In Thursday's race-to-9, round-of-32 matches, Reyes batteled Nils Feijen of Holland. Andam faces Satoshi Kawabata of Japan and Lining tackles Oliver Hartmann of Germany.

The RP cue artists are being backed by Puyat Sports headed by sportsman businessman Aristed "Putch" Puyat.

Thursday's matches

(Last 32—Race to 9)

Souquet (Ger) vs. Tode (Jap)  
Smith (Eng) vs. Ching (Tai)  
Strickland (USA) vs. Roschkowsky (Ger)  
Krenek (Cze) vs. Chamat  
Ortmann (Ger) vs. Lining (Phi)  
Chia (Tai) vs. Archer (USA)  
Frank (USA) vs. Jones (USA)  
Alcaide (Spa) vs. Jungo (Swe)



REYES

FILE PHOTO

Ponzing (Eng) vs. Ginn (Eng)  
Immonen (Fin) vs. Drago (Mal)  
Reyes (Phi) vs. Feijen (Hol)  
Eckert (Ger) vs. Hohmann (Ger)  
Kawabata (Jap) vs. Andam (Phi)  
Tucker (Eng) vs. Williams (USA)  
Melling (Eng) vs. Davis (Eng)  
Martei (Can) vs. Hao (Tai)

Last 64 results:  
Yang (Tai) bt Alvi (Ind) 9-2  
Kowabata (Jap) bt Dominguez (Mex) 9-4  
Tode (Jap) bt Reimering (Ger) 9-3  
Martei (Can) bt Donlon (Ire) 9-5  
Immonen (Fin) bt Deuel (USA) 9-3  
Archer (USA) bt Petroni (Ita) 9-6  
Melling (Eng) bt Tot (Hun) 9-8  
Jones (USA) bt Knight (Eng) 9-1  
Chang (Tai) vs. Stuari (Ind) 9-6  
Fleischkowsky (Ger) bt Higa (Tai) 9-4  
Ortmann (Ger) bt Hopkins (USA) 9-3  
Krenek (Cze) bt Van Den Berg (Hol) 9-7  
Ponzing (Eng) bt Babica (Pol) 9-7  
Lining (Phi) bt Yamamoto (Jap) 9-8  
Chia (Tai) vs. Schmidt (Ger) 9-8  
Eckert (Ger) bt Davenport (USA) 9-8  
Drago (Mal) bt Bustamante (Phi) 9-6  
Hohmann (Ger) bt Pagulayan (Can) 9-8  
Tucker (Eng) bt Horstall (Can) 9-8  
Frank (USA) bt Harrison (Eng) 9-5  
Souquet (Ger) bt Holly (Lux) 9-7  
Ginn (Eng) bt Fong (Tai) 9-8  
Jungo (Swe) bt Paes (Mex) 9-7  
Andam (Phi) bt Younger (Aus) 9-5  
Arcade (Spa) bt Lely (Hol) 9-7  
Williams (USA) bt Peach (Eng) 9-7  
Reyes (Phi) bt Tiong (Sing) 9-3  
Davis (Eng) bt White (Eng) 9-2  
Strickland (USA) bt Gallego 9-8  
Chamal (Swe) bt Potier (Can) 9-3  
Feijen (Hol) bt Hann (Aus) 9-7

## Why exclude Andam?



THE INCLUSION of billiards champion Efren "Bata" Reyes in the Philippine delegation to the Kuala Lumpur Southeast Asian Games in September is generally expected. But the exclusion of Leonardo "Dodong" Andam from the team boggles the mind.

In the lineup submitted by Joaquin de Tagle, president of the Billiards and Snooker Congress of the Philippines, Andam was not included in the roster of SEA Games hopefuls, which listed—aside from Reyes—Aren Kianco, Antonio Lining, Reynaldo Granada, Lee Vas Conterra, James Ortega, Venancio Tatio, Benjamin Guevara Jr and reigning Asian snooker champion Marlou Manalo.

Andam is a pool player with impressive past and present credentials. Unbeknownst to many, he won four gold medals in the 1991 Manila SEA Games. And because of his playing skills and vast experience, the 41-year-old Cabatuan native was able to make a big impact on the international billiards scene.

For example, in the ongoing \$300,000 World Pool Championship in Cardiff, Wales, Andam merrily marched into the round of 64 undefeated, alongside the sport's toughest dudes such as always dangerous Johnny Archer of the United States, bald-headed Raif Souquet, the undisputed champion from Germany and silent but deadly Hua Ping-chang of Taiwan.

Known as "Rattlesnake" in the lucrative professional tour, Andam upset Reyes, 13-11, to win last year's \$50,000 Match of the Masters International 9-Ball Championship at the Casino Filipino Amphitheater in Pampanga City. The heavy underdog, Andam advanced to the championship round without a loss, stealing the thunder away from pool icons like Archer, Souquet and Francisco "Django" Bustamante, another Puyat Sports stalwart.

Even though he is not as popular to the fans as Reyes, Andam also won several tournaments in the money-rich US circuit. In 1995, he won the Dallas Open while in 1994, he topped the Tennessee State 9-Ball Championship. In 1993, he captured the Target Pool tournament in Las Vegas, marking his rousing debut in the American tour.

## Anton nears crown

CARLOS Anton of the Zed Gulf Oil MP Turbo Racing Team inched closer to the overall title of the 2001 Shell Philippine Junior Touring Car Championships by producing second place finishes in the 9th and 10th rounds of the series last Sunday at the Batangas Racing Circuit in Rosario, Batangas.

Carlo Pastor of the TEC Team topped the rounds by upstaging the Zed Gulf Oil MP Turbo troika of Anton, Mike Potenciano and Alex Padilla.

Potenciano, in a Hyundai Elantra, started out on pole in round 9 but lost the lead to Pastor's well prepared Toyota Corolla midway into the race.

### SPORTS ON TV

COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUAT

**BILLIARDS:** World Professional Pool Championships 2001, Day 6, 1st Session at 5 p.m. (r), 2nd Session at 11 a.m. (r), Day 7, 1st Session at 9 p.m., 2nd Session tomorrow at 2 a.m. on ESPN

**GOLF:** PGA Greater Milwaukee Open Highlights at 8 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

Inside the PGA Tour at 12 noon (r - 9 p.m.) on Star Sports

LPGA Michelob Light Classic, Final Round at 2 p.m. (r) on ESPN

PGA B.C. Open, First Round at 10 p.m. on Star Sports



## What Drives You

## Jr invitational golf tomorrow

PHILIPS Consumer Communications (PCC), a business division of Royal Philips Electronics NV, together with Smart Telecom Specialist Inc., will hold the first ever Junior Invitational golf tournament starting at 11 a.m. at the Mt. Makarayat Golf and Country Club in Lipa City, Batangas this Saturday, July 21.

There will be three different categories: for kids dealers and for local media practitioners. The children's category will have three sub-brackets: Class A (15 to 17 years old), Class B (11 to 14 years old) and Class C (for participants 10 years old and under).

PCC has also invited a professional golf instructors who will conduct the Philips Driving Range Golf Swing Clinic.

### RACING TIPS

AT SAN LAZARO By MR. 999

Race 1—1 D Raven 2. Golden Quest 3. Simply Great 4. Pan Tristam  
Race 2—1 Ebony Star 2. Back to Back 3. Red Hahn  
Race 3—1. Hazme Lady 2. Baby My Beloved 3. Green Buck 4. Belle D'Amour  
Race 4—1. Ocean Menary 2. A's Princess 3. She's So Sure 4. Storm Princess  
Race 5—1. Ryuj 2. Iron Lady 3. Thunder Dragon 4. Flash Back  
Race 6—1. Gold Honors 2. Corporate Law 3. Always Race 7—1. Turbo Carera 2. Steel Wheel 3. Nevada Prints 4. Bullit Express  
Race 8—1. Princely Naiive 2. Dressed to Impress 3. Celebration 4. Leading Light  
Race 9—1. Summit Power 2. Irish Star 3. Gabriel's Pet Dr. Jones

### BASEBALL RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Team	W	L	PCT
NY Yankees	56	38	.598
Astros	35	58	.345
Red Sox	41	63	.428
Toronto Blue Jays	38	65	.359
Cardinals	57	37	.600
Marlins	53	35	.576
White Sox	46	46	.500
Orioles	41	61	.416
Twins	38		

Seattle 2722

Detroit 50 44 532

Angels 48 58 522

Reds 28 69 438

Texas 41. Baltimore 4 (1st BBL); Texas 41. Milwaukee, (2nd GM) postponed; NY Yankees 3. Detroit 5. 1st GM; Detroit 12. NY Yankees 4. (2nd GM); Boston 4. Toronto 4. Atlanta 3. Tampa 2. 1st GM; Boston 4. Toronto 4. Atlanta 3. Tampa 2. 1st GM; Atlanta 4. GM White Sox 4. Seattle 2. Cards 2. 1st GM; Chicago 7. Marlin 2.

MARINER'S LEAGUE

Team	W	L	PCT
Marlins	53	41	.584
Panama	42	52	.457
Peru	48	47	.500
New York	44	52	.468
Mexican	41	58	.402
Central	43	58	.401
Group	46	59	.401
Honduras	52	41	.558
Colombia	47	46	.500
Uruguay	49	50	.463
Peru	58	58	.476
Guatemala	35	58	.372
West	54	59	.481
Arizona	53	42	.558
San Francisco	50	45	.528
San Diego	44	55	.468
Colorado	43	54	.429

Arizona 54 59 .481

San Francisco 50 45 .528

San Diego 44 55 .468

Colorado 43 54 .429

Chicago Cubs 6. Pittsburgh 5. Montreal 11. Atlanta 3. Cincinnati 7. 1-1 tie

Montreal 11. Atlanta 3. Cincinnati 7. 1-1 tie

Atlanta 1. San Diego 2. 3rd tie

Montreal 11. Atlanta 3. Cincinnati 7. 1-1 tie

Atlanta 1. San Diego 2. 3rd tie

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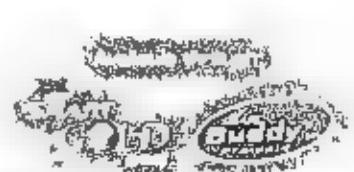
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Your birthday is  
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for the day,  
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Emotional=20.72  
Intellectual=91.37

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# METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

## Berroya speaks up on Tulfo exposé

A26

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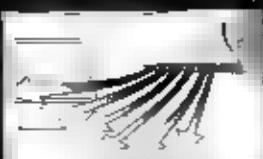
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Better Living, Better Environment.

# ROTC not just about sandwich, soft drinks, study says

AN INDEPENDENT study showed that cadets enrolled in the ROTC's Civic Welfare Service (CWS) component feel they "have become better persons after graduating from CWS."

The study, which came amid the clamor of some sectors to abolish the college military training course, surveyed the responses of ROTC-CWS administrators, CWS cadets, non-CWS cadets, and community leaders belonging to the 41 ROTC Units offering CWS nationwide across the AFP's three major services.

CWS is one of three options offered to cadets during their second year of military training.

Mandatory military education for college males opened its doors to community service in the form of CWS and Law Enforcement Service (LES) a few years ago and there is a move to include topics such as survival and cyber skills, environmental awareness, and seminars on the

peace process ROTC's Military Training Service (MTS) curriculum.

The study found that 73 percent of CWS cadets, 48 percent of MTS and LES cadets, and 61 percent of community leaders perceive CWS as contributing to the community's overall peace and development, citing that CWS cadets reached out to the poor, bridged the gap between government and community, and that their projects fostered unity among community members.

It was also found out that 86 percent of community leaders saw CWS cadets as contributing to the community's welfare, actively increasing awareness about the community's problems which the cadets help alleviate.

That 83 percent of those enrolled in MTS and LES involve themselves in CWS activities is an indication that ROTC is not just about sunshine, sandwiches, and soft drinks. Cadets can be mobilized in

the spirit of service, solidarity, and social responsibility. They can initiate a whole range of non-combative projects, like solid waste management seminars, tree-planting, blood donation, physical fitness activities like inter-fraternity rumble, tutorials for public school students—social entrepreneurship is endless," says the study's researcher, Dr. Vivian A. Gonzales of the College of Public Affairs, University of the Philippines Los Baños.

According to Gonzales, the three major reasons why ROTC's potential in general and that of CWS' in particular remains unharvested are the lack of competent resource persons/instructors, a well-defined program structure, and support from the school's administration.

Dr. Gonzales' study is entitled "An Assessment of the Expanded ROTC Program's Civic Welfare Service and Its Implications on the National Peace and Development Plan."

## A vow of poverty for the Pinoy

**WHAT** do Filipinos and world heavyweight boxing king Hasim Rahman have in common?

Not an easy question. With the endless troubles and turmoil our poor countrymen have to face up to, the Pinoy could easily be labeled a perennial loser.

This simply means he has nothing in common with Rahman, a certified big winner.

But Rahman shares something with the Filipino, who just refused to be knocked out despite the assortied blows, both natural and man-made, that come his way day after day.

I discovered about this on Wednesday, when I dropped by for some drinks at Dinky's place, across the PBA playing venue in Pasig.

During that little party, broadcaster Ed Picson pointed to a typewriter in a plug we did for the scheduled playing tour of Mindanao and the Visayas by billiards legend Efren 'Bata' Reyes.

It's not 80 cities, but only 8 Bata will be playing in,

Ed explained. I did write eight but somebody, either the typesetter or the proofreader decided to play it too generously.

You should not feel too bad, I told Ed. In my previous column here, I wrote that I dared "play it very pretty" in tackling the funding problem of boxers in the Mandaluyong City Stable.

When I read my column the next morning, I found myself daring to play it "very pretty." Uh, uh.

Another early sentence in that column got lost when an unnecessary pronoun (which) was inadvertently inserted and thereby left the whole thing dangling.

All in the game, I told myself. My modem is not working at the moment, and I had to work with the fax system.

We have no reason to complain. If the peso continues to suffer a savage beating, we can only expect other things to be in dismay.

So let's tackle that little quiz. What do Filipinos have in common with Hasim Rahman, who stopped the show but overruled Lennox Lewis to capture the world heavyweight boxing crown.

Answer: Just like Rahman, the Filipino has also made a vow of poverty.

Yes, popular US talk show host Jay Leno, according to my friend Hermie Rivera, has made a vow of poverty.

How, I asked, why and how did Rahman make a vow of poverty?

Simple, Hermie said, by signing up with Don King.

Ed Picson nearly fell off his seat.

I stood up to pat Hermie on the back and pour him another round of Torres 10 brandy.

Of course, we all know how Don King, an ex-con-convict, had piled up millions upon millions by undercutting big name boxers.

We broke up still laughing. The morning after, with the peso sinking lower and lower and the prices of commodities soaring off the roof, we paused and made a review of things.

This is not to compare President Arroyo with Don King. They play two different games.

But at the rate dreams and hopes continue to sink and get shattered all over here, it's hard to deny now that the Filipino has also signed up with President Arroyo.

And, just like Hasim Rahman, the Pinoy, under the current regime, has also made a vow of poverty.

### METROBRIEFS

#### Woman gets life

**CALOOCAN** Judge Silverio Belo Jr. sentenced to life imprisonment a 53-year-old Priscilla del Norte of Cruzada Street in Bagong Bato, Caloocan after she was found guilty of violating the Dangerous Drugs Act. Del Norte was also fined P1 million. Del Norte was found with 6.7 kilos of marijuana hidden under her bed when police searched her house on the strength of a warrant issued by Judge Bayani Rivera on Aug. 1, 1997. The marijuana had a street value of P30,000.

Christian V. Esguerra

#### Mechanic arrested

**DISMISSED** auto mechanic Nilo Orinis, 28, of North Hills Village, FVR 2 in Norzagaray, Bulacan is facing robbery charges after police found in his house imported tractor spare parts worth over P200,000 that he allegedly stole from his former employer early this week, said Valenzuela Police Chief Supt. Nemesio Neron. Police said Orinis allegedly broke into the store room of Integrity Trading owned by Tommy Gan, at Paso de Blas in Valenzuela about 1:30 a.m. last Monday, and took several spare parts of tractor engines and agricultural equipment. Yesterday, police recovered the stolen spare parts and arrested Orinis during an operation.

Christian V. Esguerra

#### Rapist, 20, falls

**POLICE** arrested on Tuesday Angelito Buenavista, 20, jobless, of Bonney Street, Barangay Maruyo in Las Piñas, for allegedly raping a 6-year-old girl on Sampalocan Street in Barangay Maruyo, said SPO1 Edna Mojica of the Las Piñas City Police Women's and Children Concern Desk. Police said the girl was playing when Buenavista invited her to come with him to the grassy lot where he apparently raped her.

Alcina Papa

# 'I have no hand in it'

BY TONETTE OREJAS  
PDI Central Luzon Desk

**SENIOR SUPT** Reynaldo Berroya, Central Luzon police director, insisted he was not the source of Ramon Tulfo when the Inquirer columnist wrote about Sen. Panfilo Lacson's alleged human rights violations during his stint with the Metrocom Intelligence Security Group.

But Berroya said he believes Tulfo was writing the truth.

"I have no hand in it," Berroya said in Pilipino, referring to Tulfo's articles which appeared in his column "On Target."

Berroya, former chief of the Philippine National Police's intelligence unit, also said he was not behind the white paper, released some years ago, that detailed the same charges against Lacson.

He also hit Lacson for blaming him each time an unsavory story on the senator comes out.

"Pag katotohanan, aka ang pinanghihinatangan (If it's the truth, he blames me)," Berroya said in reply to an Inquirer question on why the senator blamed him for Tulfo's articles.

From a police lieutenant in the MISG, Lacson rose to become head of the PNP and the defunct Presidential Anti-Crime Organized Task Force during the term of ousted President Joseph Estrada.

Berroya said he now wants to concentrate on his new assignment as police director for Central Luzon.

"I don't want to answer every accusation he hurl against me," Berroya said of Lacson. "I want to work."

On Wednesday, Berroya shared the assessment that Central Luzon was calamity-prone after he made an aerial inspection of Pampanga, Nueva Ecija and Aurora the day before. He said the Regional Disaster Coordinating Council, which he also heads, needs to buckle down to work.

His immediate order was to mark the rooftops of critically situated schools and hospitals with signs and color codes to make it easier for RDCC pilots to determine which to help first.

"I have much to do here in Central Luzon," he said. "I can't waste my time on unfounded accusations."

When he assumed the post last Friday, Berroya said there were people who wanted to undermine his work in the region.

BERROYA

## Booksellers sue Mayor Atienza

BY JEROME ANING

A GROUP of second-hand bookstore owners from the University Belt on CM Recto Avenue and Moraya Street has filed contempt charges against Mayor Lito Atienza and five other city officials for demolishing their stalls last week.

The 27 petitioners, in their eight-page complaint dated July 17, said the demolition last Thursday was "arbitrary and whimsical" and done in disobedience of a lawful standing court order.

They want the Manila regional trial court to issue a preliminary mandatory injunction to allow them to return to their place on Recto and Moraya, rebuild their stalls and vend their wares, considering that selling second-hand books was their only source of living.

Aside from Atienza, others who were named respondents were Task Force Kaayusan head Rufino Bunsoy, Hawkers Permits Services chief Adil Khan, city markets administrator Gonzalez Gonzales, Department of Public Services head Rafael Borromeo and Armando Andres of the city engineer's office.

The case was raffled yesterday morning to the Manila RTC Branch 42 under Judge Guillermo Purganan, who has set the first hearing on Tues-

day next week.

The petitioners said their second-hand book stalls were the real targets of the demolition because those selling newspapers, magazines and other periodicals were spared.

Their lawyer, Lysandro Sanchez Sr., earlier accused big-time book vendors of lobbying with the mayor's office for the demolition of the second-hand bookstalls, which were giving the large dealers stiff competition.

The vendors said they were denied due process as they were neither warned nor given time to voluntary remove their stalls on Recto and Moraya.

In their complaint, the vendors referred to a July 1, 1993 decision by the Manila RTC Branch 36 Judge Wilfredo Reyes.

The judge declared that the petitioners were "legally entitled" to sell and display their second-hand books and other printed or reading materials, as long as they pay the required fees and get the necessary permits from City Hall.

But Atienza said the demolition was meant to "liberate the sidewalks" of Manila from encroachers. Khan, in his two letters to the vendors, canceled their permits "in the interest of public service and for the benefit of the pedestrian especially the students."

Ramos told police that he suddenly swerved to avoid a CPD patrol car, which was parked in the middle of the road. Unfortunately, Ramos hit a Mitsubishi Lancer (UEW-914) which was beside the mobile patrol police said.

Ramos said he came out his car to try to talk with the Lancer's owner but a policeman suddenly appeared. He said the policeman pulled out his handgun and struck him on the neck.

Police said Ramos scampered back to his car in fright and decided to get out of the place since the other policemen also appeared.

As he was about to drive away, the policeman opened fire at his car and hit driver Antonio in the buttocks, police said.

The suspect, however, claimed that they only fired at Ramos after he tried to run them over.

## CPD brass, 4 cops in hot water

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

**CENTRAL** Police District (CPD) Insp. Joelito Espino and four of his men are facing charges of frustrated and attempted murder after one of them allegedly pistol-whipped student Marcos R. Ramos, 21, of 101 Cenacle Drive, Southville Subdivision in Tandang Sora and shot and injured his driver Vernon G. Antonio.

Also accused were SPO1 Paquito Juan, PO3 Vergilio Mendoza, PO3 Edwin Puno, and PO2 Almerto Dominguez, all members of the Project 4 police station.

SPO1 Demosthenes Rebancos of the CPD-Criminal Investigation Unit said Ramos was driving his Honda Civic (plate number TSL-238), together with Antonio and Ramos' 17-year-old friend from Sta. Cruz, Manila, along E. Rodriguez in Libis about 2:30 p.m. on July 8.

Ramos told police that he suddenly swerved to avoid a CPD patrol car, which was parked in the middle of the road. Unfortunately, Ramos hit a Mitsubishi Lancer (UEW-914) which was beside the mobile patrol police said.

Ramos said he came out his car to try to talk with the Lancer's owner but a policeman suddenly appeared.

As he was about to drive away, the policeman opened fire at his car and hit driver Antonio in the buttocks, police said.

The suspect, however, claimed that they only fired at Ramos after he tried to run them over.

## Loren at Kilosbayan

SEN. Loren Legarda and Dr. Emmanuel de Dios, a UP Economics professor, will engage Kilosbayan members and guests in a discussion of the current Philipine situation at the Kilosbayan Forum today.

Senator Legarda will talk about "Criminality and the Problem of Peace and Order" while Prof. De Dios will

discuss "Poverty in our Society". A panel of three Kilosbayan leaders, headed by Ambassador Sedfrey A. Ordóñez, will field questions during the open forum.

The Forum will be held at 2 p.m. at the 3rd floor of the Shalom Center, 1660 Leon Ma. Guerrero St., Malate, Manila.

## 9 hurt in Makati blast

BY NELSON FLORES

NINE persons were hurt, two of them seriously, when a liquefied petroleum gas tank exploded in a coffee shop at the Glorietta Shopping complex in Makati City yesterday afternoon.

Police said all of the victims were brought to the Makati Medical Center. They added that two of those hurt were the relatives of the Australian consul.

Investigation disclosed that the incident happened at about 4:30 p.m. at the

## Motorbike rider killed

A MAN was killed and three others

were injured on Tuesday when a motorcycle lost control and slammed into another vehicle in Quezon City. Killed was Rizalito Sembrano, 26, of Imelda Street, Pang Compound in Project 6, Quezon City, said SPO1 Nery Buendia of the Central Police District Traffic Enforcement Office. Injured were students Richard de Jesus, 21, Ernesto Ramones, 17, and Thraezy Lagua, 26, all residents of Quezon City. Police said Sembrano, Lagua, and Ramones were riding a Kawasaki motorcycle along Regalado Avenue in Fairview when it bumped De Jesus and then slammed into a Toyota Tamariwa FX with license plate No. WRL-557, driven by Hilario Estrada, 43, of Kulunay Street, Batasan Hills, Quezon City. Christian V. Esguerra

Friday, July 20, 2001  
15th Week in Ordinary Time

Ex 11:10—12:1-8  
Mt 12:1-8

It happened that Jesus walked through the wheat fields on a Sabbath. His disciples were hungry, and began to pick some heads of wheat and crush them to eat the grain. When the Pharisees noticed this, they said to Jesus, "Look at your disciples; they are doing what is prohibited on the Sabbath!"

Jesus answered, "Have you not read what David did when he and his men were hungry? He went into the house of God, and ate the bread offered to God, although neither he nor his men had the right to eat it, but only the priests. And have you not read in the Law that on the Sabbath the priests in the Temple break the Sabbath rest, yet they are not guilty?"

I tell you, there is greater than the Temple here. If you really knew the meaning of the words, 'It is mercy I want, not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the innocent.

Besides the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath."

Commentary:  
*This reading serves in Matthew's gospel as a kind of Sabbath discourse. For the ordinary Jews the Sabbath was a joyful event in which they celebrated their special relation to God. It was a day of rest to give prominence to the gracious presence of God with his people. Overemphasizing the legal prescriptions the Pharisees obscured the real meaning of the Sabbath as a celebration of God's goodness. To expose this misdevelopment Jesus stresses both the holiness of every human person and the compassion of God. In order to make his point clear Jesus states that God actually does not want sacrifices but rather mercy. This is the correct interpretation of the Law.*

# Pia Pilapil ready to go full-blast in her career

**PIA PILAPIL** is flattered no end to be known as the daughter of actress Pilar Pilapil. But just as the mom is in a league of her own from being a beauty queen to a respected actress, the daughter is unique in her own way, too.

While Pia has decided to follow in her mom's footsteps and join show biz, the daughter is bent on carving a niche for herself.

Most everyone knows that Pia has famous parents who brought her up to be the smart and independent lady she is now. She grew up in the United States, which explains for most of her Western ways.

A Mass Communications major from Assumption College, Pia is candid enough to admit she didn't get to finish college since she got married at 19 to former ramp model Jerry Gonzalo.

"As an only child, I was stubborn and I rebelled," she explains. "I married Jerry because I wanted security. The reason we got married is we were so in love."

Fortunately for Pia, she later landed a job as a newscaster at ABS-CBN. She was also a

the same network and a VJ for Studio 23.

In no time, however, did Pia decide to pursue acting. She signed up with Viva Films and

tells me straight what we should do. We're both professionals. People should not under-estimate our relationship.

"I've had my experience of being in the industry. I've learned from my mistakes and I'm more mature now. Actually, my mom and *Tita Annabelle* are a little bit similar, so it's not hard to deal with her (*Annabelle*)."

Pia wants to concentrate more on drama and do more challenging projects.

"Actually, I'm very flexible," she asserts. "With my experiences in life, I can adapt to any role."

Still, despite her desire to be a big star, Pia refuses to join the bandwagon.

"I will not accept any project which will require me to bare or show any part of my body," she says. "I turned down *Viva's* previous offers because the scripts called for nudity. The films all became box office hits and I would have been the star. But I really didn't want to go bold."

At 27, Pia has set her own limitations for herself, not because of her mom or her hubby.

She approves the script, that means it's really okay," she grants. "I also discuss with Gerry the projects and the roles that I'm doing."

Meanwhile, as far as her personal life is concerned, Pia refutes the talk that she and Jerry are now living separate lives. There were even reports she left Jerry, who's blind, since she simply got tired taking care of him.

But Pia and Jerry, with their three kids—Sophia, 8; Giuliano, 7; and Andrea, 5—are still very much a family.

"We've been married for 10 years now," Pia says. "There are certain things which we don't agree upon up to this day, but those are not enough reasons for us to breakup. I never had a problem taking care of him. I am very patient and I love taking care of people."

Recently, the couple went through marriage counseling. "We're both strong characters that's why we needed it," Pia explains.

Pia, however, simply regrets having married at a young age.

"If I could turn back the hands of time, I would have enjoyed my teenage life to the fullest, get a college degree and work before getting married. I would have stabilized myself first."

"I am, Pia, one person who dwells on regrets."

"You have to constantly move on," she says. "Now, even if I'm going to go full-blast in my career, I will not sacrifice my



GELLI de Belen with son Julio in one of their photos in Baby Magazine.

## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

**Leah Salterio**



family."

### Ana Roces now engaged

**ACTRESS** Ana Roces is now engaged to her businessman boyfriend, who comes from a prominent family.

It has been reported that Ana will get married next month, but according to a source close to the actress, Ana will tie the knot in January yet.

Ana has kept the guy away from the prying eyes of show biz, although they are con-

stantly together. Recently, they were seen watching the concert of Janine Gibbs at Captain's Bar of Mandarin Oriental Manila. Ana and Janine are costars in the weekly GMA sitcom, "Beh Botch Nga."

The guy also fetches Ana after her work at La Tavola, the new Italian restaurant she owns in Remedios st., Malate.

When she's not busy taping, Ana makes it a point to be at La Tavola every night, so she can

supervise her own business. That's putting to good use her international hotel management course at Hines School in the Isle of Man in London.

### Gelli's babies

**GELLI** de Belen talks about the joys of being mother to two precocious boys—Joaquin Andres (Joaqui) and Julio Alessandro (Julio)—in the July issue of Baby Magazine. Gelli is also on the cover with Julio, and with her hubby Ariel Rivera and Joaquin in the inside pages.

Even now that she has started to appear on TV shows again, Gelli still prioritizes her family. When she married Ariel, she placed being a wife and mother before any-

thing else.

### Reader writes

**READER** Macario

Mabilis reacts to our

column about Mikey

Arroyo, who gets lead

status in a movie for the

first time in his show

biz career (Showbiz

Tidbits - 07/15/01).

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| <b>Bon Appétit Patisserie &amp; Café</b>                                       | <b>Café Adriatico Premier</b>                               |
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| <b>Merc's Pizza, Pasta, Presto!</b>  | 10% discount on food & beverages                            |
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|  |   |
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# Party promo nights

SUBURBIA launches a special two-night party promo, July 21 and 28, when all guests are entitled to a 50-percent discount on the minimum consumable charge.

Featured bands on the two weekend nights are Elements back to back with Pocket Central.

Other exciting bands work up the crowd at Suburbia. Side A performs on Mondays and with Escape on Wednesdays.

Tuesdays, Pido With Take One dishes out smooth, unadulterated music, plus their original compositions from their CD under MCA Universal.

A free entrance promo awaits ladies on Thursdays, as Suburbia marks ladies night, with the infectious R&B sound of 7th Soul.

Fridays are as powerful with the boy band Freeverse, performing back to back with Playback tonight and Parliament Syndicate on July 27.

Suburbia is at 1718 M. Adriatico St., Malate, Manila. For inquiries, call 450-1685 or 86.

## Bingo bonanza

A BINGO bonanza with valuable prizes at stake is the highlight of the "Rosary for the SVD Missions" project.

The event will be held at 2 p.m. on July 22 at the covered courts of Christ the King Seminary, 101 E. Rodriguez Sr. Blvd., Quezon City.

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD, a Marian priest and mission director of the SVD (Society of the Divine Word) Mission Philippines, invites everyone to support the project, "Rosary for the SVD Missions."

Five to 10 rosaries can be sent to the poor SVD Mission families in the Philippines, Africa and South America for every P100 donation to the project.

Donors may also get the chance to win P100,000 in cash and a pilgrimage trip to Naju, Korea, with Fr. Orbos.

The project was organized by the XVD Association, a group of former SVD seminarians, as the culminating event of its grand alumni homecoming also on July 22.

"Rosary for the SVD Missions" is an invitation for everyone to share in the missionary vision of the SVD.

Donation tickets are available at the SVD Mission Office at the seminary compound.

For inquiries, call 725-9006 or 721-7457.

**SM CINEMAS**

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**CITY BACOOR**  
1 DRIVEN  
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3 DR. DO LITTLE 2  
4 MAHAL KITA  
5 FINAL FANTASY  
6 PANGAKO KAW LANG  
7 PARU-PARDING LIGAW  
8 TOMB RAIDER  
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10 PANGAKO KAW LANG  
11 DR. DO LITTLE 2  
12 FINAL FANTASY  
13 MAHAL KITA  
14 DRIVEN  
15 PARU-PARDING LIGAW  
16 COMMAND & CONQUER  
17 FINAL FANTASY  
18 ALONG CAME A SPIDER  
19 AMORSEKO

**CITY NORTH EDSA**  
1 DRIVEN  
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3 DR. DO LITTLE 2  
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5 FINAL FANTASY  
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8 TOMB RAIDER  
9 ALONG CAME A SPIDER  
10 TOMB RAIDER  
11 AMORSEKO

**SOUTHMALL**  
1 DR. DO LITTLE 2  
2 TOM CATS  
3 COMMAND & CONQUER  
4 DRIVEN  
5 PARU-PARDING LIGAW  
6 SWORD FISH  
7 TOMB RAIDER  
8 ALONG CAME A SPIDER  
9 MAHAL KITA  
10 FINAL FANTASY  
11 PANGAKO KAW LANG  
12 PARU-PARDING LIGAW

**CITY FAIRVIEW**  
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CRIS Peczon



CHER Calvin



## Tequila Rose blooms in RP

THE MAKATI scene woke up from its deep slumber when Tequila Rose, the newest drink out in the market, was launched recently at Venezia Bar.

Tequila Rose is a natural imported strawberry cream liquor and tequila, distributed in the country by Premier Wine and Spirits.

In the United States, Tequila Rose, introduced only in 1999, is already the third best-selling aquor.

The Philippines is the first country to carry the drink outside the United States.

Pretty and pink during the Tequila Rose launch were Manila's young party set—Ana Garamendi, Channel E's Rea Gomez, TV journalist Cristina Peczon, businesswoman Maricris Abad Santos Albert, model Nancy Catiglione and TV Cher Calvin.

Also in the event were Premier Wine and Spirits director Ted McDonnell, who brought the new drink to the Philippines, Venezia's Louie Ysmail.

Manila's young socialites—Pepper Teahankee, Chestnut Heredia, Bebeth Timbol, Geoff Simpson and Joan Mitchell—were on hand to be the first to taste Tequila Rose.

MTV Asia VJ KC Montero hosted the event.

Tequila Rose divas will visit bars in Manila to give people a chance to taste the drink.

The drink has various versions such as Rose Lee (Tequila Rose on the rocks), Desert Rose (Tequila Rose with more tequila) and Rosa Negra (Tequila Rose with a swirl of chocolate).

**HYPER-ELECTRIFYING ACTION  
THAT'S HOTTER THAN BURSTING FLAMES!**

MTRCB Rating: Strictly for ADULTS No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted

JOHN TRAVOLTA  
LAUGH JACKMAN  
HALLE BERRY  
DON CHEADLE

Tagline: Back in. Go anywhere. Start everything.

**SWORD FISH**

MOVIE REVOLUTION STUDIOS

BBFC: 18+ MATURE

**DESTINY IS IN THEIR PAWS**

CATS & DOGS

OPENING AUGUST 1

**ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD**

**SPECIAL SCREENING**

SEAN CONNERY  
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF "GOOD WILL HUNTING"  
**FINDING FORRESTER**

MTRCB Rating: GP

GALLERIA

Starting July 18, 2001

**ARTFILM - GLORIETTA 4**

NOW SHOWING

MTRCB Rating: PG-13

PHILIPPINE PREMIERE  
From the Critically Acclaimed Director of  
"CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON"

**RIDE WITH THE DEVIL**  
A Film by ANG LEE

IN A NO-MAN'S LAND BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH,  
YOU DIDN'T FIGHT FOR THE BLUE OR THE GRAY...  
YOU FOUGHT FOR YOUR FRIENDS AND YOUR FAMILY.

MARK ULBRICH TOBEY MAGUIRE JEFFREY WRIGHT

ANG LEE ("The Ice Storm," "Brokeback Mountain" & "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon") once again takes audiences on a journey to a different time and place, and into his characters' internal conflicts. A cast of rising young stars portrays young Americans, striving to define themselves and the country they had always called home, amidst national turmoil. The screenplay for "Ride With the Devil" is adapted by Lee's long-time collaborator, James Schamus, from Daniel Woodrell's novel "Woe Is Lizzy."

**3rd Sexy Date Movie DAY!**

Introducing, the "Tomcats," tropa ng free-wheeling, sex-obsessed guys, na wa ang instugang kung hindi maka iskor at magbihang ng nobya. Nagpustahan ang barkada—sino ang huling barako na di patatali sa pag-aasawa?

Matapos ang liang taon, sina Michael (Jerry O'Connell ng JERRY MAGUIRE) at Kyle (Jake Busey ng STARSHIP TROOPERS) na lang ang natirang bachelors sa grupo.

Upang manalo sa pusta, isa-set up ni Mike si Kyle with super-seductive Natalie (Shannen Elizabeth ng SCARY MOVIE, AMERICAN PIE). Nguni't di nya inaasahan na main ab din pala siya sa sexing dalega. Manalo man siya sa pusta, maglalaho namani ang true love nyal.

Slipin din sa hilarious sexy comedy from Columbia Pictures sina Playboy playmates Julia Schultz at Amber Smith. Rated R.

**Final Fantasy**

MTRCB Rating: PG-13

**EYE-POPPING SCI-FI EPIC ADVENTURE**

In the year 2065, a meteor crashes Earth, unleashing millions of destructive alien creatures. The beautiful Dr. Aki Ross is the planet's hope to overpower the alien invaders.

Infected with an alien spirit, Aki holds the key to defeating the creatures, as she scours the earth to collect the eight spirits that will save the planet, and pursues her final fantasy.

Share a motion picture unlike anything seen or imagined before on screen. Marvel at the latest in hyper-real CGI (computer generated Image) technology.

**2ND MUST-SEE ADVENTURE WEEK!**

UNLEASH A NEW REALITY

**FINAL FANTASY**

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FINAL FANTASY - P13 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30	TOM CATS - R 18 11:45, 2:45, 4:45, 6:45	SWORD FISH - R 18 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30

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FRIDAY,  
JULY 20, 2001

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

B1

# BUSINESS

RAUL O. MARCELO, Editor ■ CORRIE S. NARISMA, Assistant Editor

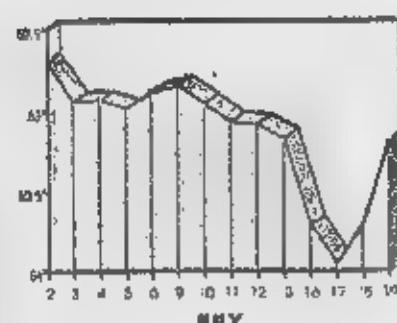


## Bangko Sentral keeps rates unchanged

### INDICATOR

#### CURRENCIES

##### PESO - DOLLAR



##### Peso-Dollar Rate

P 53.20 = \$1

As of 5 p.m.,  
July 19, 2001

##### 123.64 - \$1

The US dollar was trading  
at 123.64 as of 5 p.m.,  
July 19, 2001

GOLD: \$271.00/271.50  
per ounce Hong Kong,  
July 19, 2001

#### STOCK MARKET

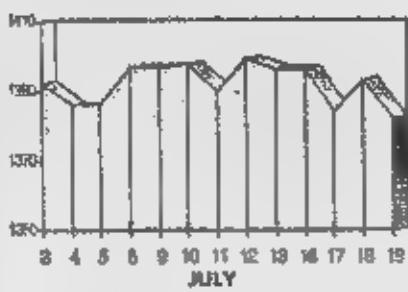
##### Stocks

##### close lower

STOCKS closed lower yesterday led by index heavyweight Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. as fears of the declining peso's negative impact on corporate earnings triggered foreign selling, brokers said.

STOCKS/B2

##### PSE Composite Index



(See stock market report on Page B2)

#### No details yet on Cosmos bid

FOOD and beverage conglomerate San Miguel Corp. confirmed yesterday that it was talking with RFM Corp. to acquire its stake in local soft drink firm Cosmos Bottling Corp., but added that no agreement has been reached yet.

"The company confirms that it is still in discussions with RFM for the acquisition of RFM's entire stake in Cosmos . . . No agreements have

been reached as to the price, structure or other details," San Miguel said in a statement to the stock exchange.

RFM president Jose Concepcion III told Reuters on Wednesday a memorandum of understanding on the sale would be signed next week with Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines Inc., a joint venture between San Miguel and Coca-Cola Co. Reuters

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas decided yesterday to keep its key overnight interest rates unchanged despite the peso's fall to a fresh six-month low one day earlier.

"No reason to adjust interest rates," BSP Deputy Governor Amando Tetangco said after the bank's weekly Monetary Board meeting.

The peso, which dropped to 54.335 to the dollar on Wednesday, its first time below 54 since Jan. 19, opened at 53.65 on Thursday. Just before the midday break, it was quoted at 53.30 to the dollar.

Bangko Sentral Governor Rafael Buenaventura has repeatedly said interest rates would not be adjusted to arrest the peso's fall since the slide was due to regional weakness and Argentina's debt crisis, in addition to anemic economic growth, worries about the budget deficit and the ongoing hostage crisis in the South.

Buenaventura said: "The weakness of the peso is not interest rate related . . . people are not shifting to dollars because our interest rates are too low or that the spread between the peso and the dollar rates are too narrow."

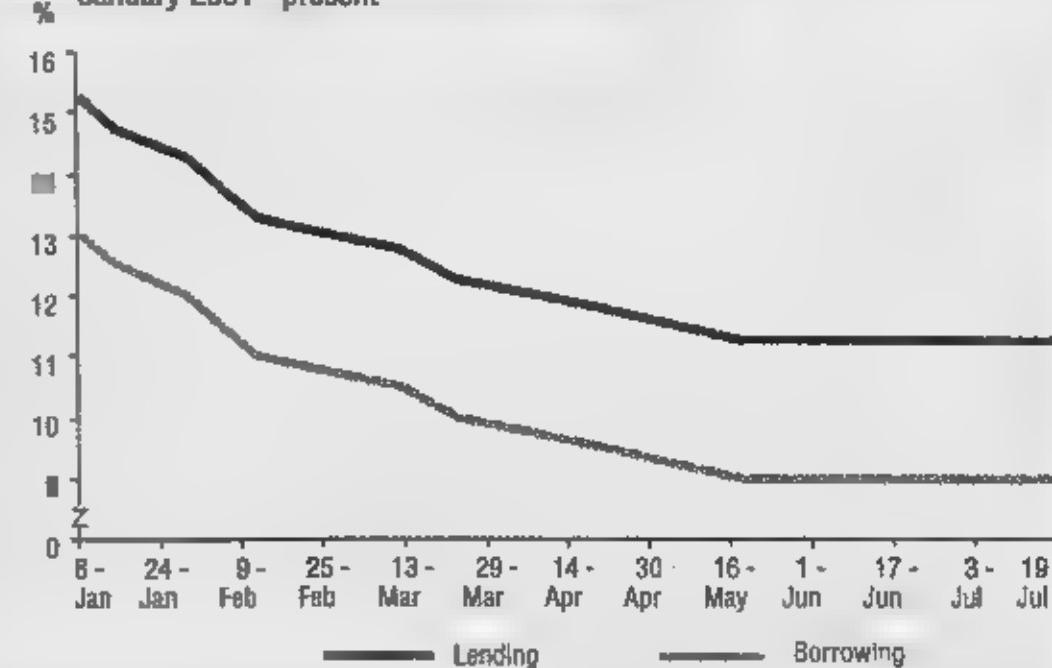
"Of course if the (budget) deficit is not contained then there is a danger that interest rates would go up."

"At the same time if the exchange rate remains at these high levels eventually it will have an impact on our inflation and it could put pressure again on our interest rates . . . but raising interest rates to defend the peso is clearly not an option at this time," he added.

Analysts have said the central bank learned its lesson back in October 2000 when raising interest rates by four percentage points did not

#### Oversight borrowing and lending rates

January 2001 - present



SOURCE: BSP

cent and the lending rate at 11.25 percent.

On Wednesday, Economic Planning Secretary Dante Canlas told a media forum that he did not expect the peso to fall to the 55-60 level, as forecast by some fund managers, and saw the currency settling around 50 to 51 toward the end of 2001.

Reuters

## Economy seen growing 4.3-4.8% next year

ECONOMIC Planning Secretary Dante Canlas said yesterday that the country's gross domestic product (GDP) growth for 2002 was likely to be between 4.3 and 4.8 percent.

This is lower than its previous projection of 4.5-5 percent GDP growth forecast given in mid-June.

"Banking on the recovery in the United States, either in the fourth quarter this year or the first quarter

of 2002, based on that, we are expecting a recovery in exports so we can go back to our normal growth path for GDP of 4.3 to 4.8 percent in 2002," Canlas said.

He also said the gross national product (GNP) growth for 2002 was expected to be between 4.6-5.2 percent, against its previous forecast of 4.8-5.3 percent growth.

Meanwhile, the Philippines' gross international reserves (GIR) stood at \$14.56 billion at the end of June

from \$14.44 billion in May, revised figures from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas showed yesterday.

The central bank earlier said its preliminary end-June GIR totaled \$14.58 billion.

The revised figures reflected the final international reserves report for end June, the central bank said.

The country has targeted a GIR level of around \$15 billion by the end of the year, flat from 2000's \$15.01 billion.

One of the options of the central bank in smoothing volatility in the foreign exchange market is to use its international reserves to intervene in the market.

While Bangko Sentral Governor Rafael Buenaventura has said the bank has not intervened in the market in the past few days, he said it was willing to use its reserves to provide liquidity when necessary.

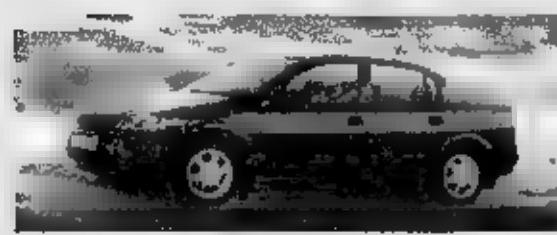
"But we should not be wasting our bullets," he added.

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## BUSINESS

## Philippine Stock Exchange

(As of Thursday, July 19, 2001)

STOCKS OPEN HIGH LOW CLOSE VOLUME

BANKS &amp; FINANCIAL SERVICES BANKS

	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Astrelus Dev. Bank Inc.	4.8	4.85	4.8	4.85	41,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	70	70	69	68	843,000
China Banking Corp.	610	610	610	610	9,140
Chinatrust Comm. Bank	19	19	18	18	100
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	36.5	36.5	36	36	260,000
Fist E-Bank Corp.	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.6	10,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	204	208	203	200	113,779
Philippine National Bank	41	42.5	40	40	64,100
Phl. Savings Bank	29	31	28	28	29,400

FINANCIAL SERVICE

	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Bankard Inc.	1.28	1.28	1.28	1.28	100,000
First Metro Invest. Corp.	220	220	220	220	50
Manulife Financial Corp.	1,450	1,455	1,450	1,455	1,350
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1270	1280	1270	1275	19,030

COMMERCIAL &amp; INDUSTRIAL

COMMUNICATION

	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	39.5	40.5	39.5	40.5	6,700
Diversified Prn. Network	6.5	6.3	6.5	6.3	3,000
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	0.5	0.5	0.47	0.47	780,000
Globe Telecom Int'l.	670	670	665	670	1,560
Island Info. & Tech. Inc.	0.039	0.041	0.038	0.038	6,100,000
Manila Broadband Holdings	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	17,700,000
Manila Broadband Pub. Corp.	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	57,000
Phil. Telegraph & Tel. Co.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	40,000
Phil. Long Dis. Tel. Co.	690	690	685	680	130,860
Vantage Corp.	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	110,000
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.034	0.034	0.032	0.034	22,400,000

POWER &amp; ENERGY

	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Manila Electric Co. A	37	37.5	37	37.5	17,800
Manila Electric Co. B	48	49	48	48	1,815,000
Patron Corp.	2.04	2.04	1.98	2	1,408,000

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.22	1.22	1.22	1.22	120,000
int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.18	2.22	2.18	2.22	1,000,000
Keppler Phils. Marine Inc.	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	580,000
Negros Navigation Co. Inc.	0.155	0.155	0.135	0.135	50,000

CONSTRUCTION &amp; OTHER RELATED PRODUC

	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Alanco Cement Corp.	0.18	0.22	0.18	0.22	200,000
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	170,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	38,000
Union Cement Corp.	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	17,000

FOOD, BEVERAGES &amp; TOBACCO

	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Coopers Bottling Corp.	4.9	4.95	4.7	4.75	3,872,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	8,300
La Tondina Distillers Inc.	26	28.5	26	26.5	8,400
RFM Corp.	2.44	2.55	2.38	2.48	14,153,000
San Miguel Corp. A	43	44	42	44	1,103,120
San Miguel Corp. B	52.5	53.5	52	52.5	1,065,800
Vitanich Corp.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	100,000

HOLDING FIRMS

	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
Abacon Con Res & Hdg A	0.77	0.77	0.76	0.77	350,000
Ayala Corp.	6.7	6.7	6.4	6.6	3,835,000
Abotillo Equity Ventures	1.44	1.44	1.42	1.42	1,698,000
Alliance Global Group Inc.	11.25	11.25	11	11	800
Ayo Net Holdings Inc.	1.4	1.42	1.28	1.28	6,384,000

A. Serrano Corp.

Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.

Boulevard Holdings Inc.

Bengal Consolidated Corp.

Southwest Asian Cement

DMCI Holdings Inc.

Ehcom Holdings Inc.

First Phil. Holdings Corp.

Globe Equities Inc.

Guoco Holdings [Phl.]

Ipoeg Corp.

J.G. Summit Holdings

Macabanga Corp.

Megawatt Corp.

Mufitech Inv. Corp.

Metro Pacific Corp.

Philwest Holdings Corp.

Solid Group Inc.

Tanduay Holdings Inc.

Uniti Res. &amp; Holdings Co.

Uniwida Holdings Inc.

MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION &amp; TRADING

Music Corp.

Maturity Vinyl Corp.

Philippine Silver Corp.

SPI Technologies Inc.

HOTEL, RECREATION &amp; OTHER SER

VICE

BONDS, PREFERRED &amp; WARRANTS

ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. [Pdn]

Jollibee Warrants

Ombo Corporation Warrant

PLDT (10% Pref.) Series U

PLDT (10% Pref.) Series V

PLDT (10% Pref.) Series W

PLDT (10% Pref.) Series Z

Philweb.Com Inc. Warrants

PROPERTY

Ayala Land Inc.

C &amp; P Homes Inc.

Cebu Prop. Veni B

Cyber Bay Corp.

Empire East Land Inc.

F4-Estate Land Inc.

SM Development Corp.

SM Prime Holdings Inc.

Universal Rightfield Prop.

Urbancorp Ready Dev. Inc.

MINING

Apex Mining Co. Inc. A

Apex Mining Co. Inc. B

Iligan-Suyoc Mines A

Iligan-Suyoc Mines B

OTHER INFORMATION\*

Compliance with Magna Carta Law:

Prescribed Ratio of Compliance 6% for Small Enterprise

## Gloria's good news

BAYAN and the other left-wing groups were at their usual rabble-rousing ways when they claimed that Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has no economic package to offer Juan dela Cruz when she delivers her State of the Nation Address on Monday.

Contrary to the left-wing propaganda, the President will announce on Monday, this we have on good authority, a tax-reduction package designed to reduce the maximum taxable bracket for both corporate and individual taxpayers from the current 32 percent down to 26 percent.

For the minimum wage earners, GMA also plans to increase the income tax exempt ceiling from the current P60,000 a year to anywhere from P80,000 to P100,000/year.

At the proposed corporate tax levels, the Philippine tax rates will place them at par with Singapore, according to an official familiar with the proposed tax reform package.

It is similar to the tax-reduction package that the new Bush administration also gifted the Americans to revive the slowing US economy.

In addition to putting more money into Juan de la Cruz's wallet, the tax reduction package is designed to stimulate sluggish customer demand as well as put local corporations in a competitive footing vis-a-vis their regional counterparts.

The tax reduction package will come in the form of an urgent bill that Macapagal will ask Congress to pass immediately to pacate the restive masses.

To shore up tax revenues that may be lost in the interim, the Bureau of Internal Revenue is set to implement next month a voluntary assessment program, where, in exchange for an additional 20-percent tax payment, suspect tax-dodgers in 1999 will no longer have to go through the wringer of a BIR audit.

This route has been tried and tested by the Aquino and the Estrada administrations when both administrations needed to immediately plug revenue shortfalls, according to the official grapevine.

### Edsa II at CCP

THE BALTAZAR Endriga board has staged their own version of People Power at the Cultural Center, ousting the entire Gloria Angara board on Friday the 13th.

Endriga claimed they elected themselves in "in accordance with the charter" only after President Macapagal-Arroyo allegedly signed their respective appointments the day before.

The Endriga board also voted former CCP artistic director Nestor Jardin president, replacing Amura Rufino, as well as ousting Emp-appointees Bangko Sentral Governor Rafael Buenaventura, Security Bank president Rafael Simpao, ABS-CBN's Freddie Garcia, and artists Alfonso Bolipata and Liguid Suntamaria.

Endriga has sent word to the guards of the Cultural Center of the Philippines that his group is set to take over the CCP on Monday, the same day that the left-wing forces are calling for a general strike.

COCKTAILS/B5

### COCKTAILS



By Victor C. Agustin

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## MESSAGES



Our warmest greetings to the management and staff of Peerless Integrated Services, Inc. on your certification as an ISO 9002 Company – the first BS EN ISO 9002:1994 certified Manpower and Manufacturing Project Contractor in the Philippines.

Fostering global competitiveness across all sectors is imperative if the Philippines is to survive and remain at par with its counterparts in a fast emerging borderless world market. The services sector is no exception to this requirement.

With an ISO certification, a company like Peerless Integrated Services, Inc. can rightfully claim that its operational and quality standards as well as management practices are of world class status. As a right step in the right direction, this achievement signifies the company's commitment to consistently provide its clientele with the highest standards of quality, efficiency and reliability in its services – the way to go for any Filipino enterprise today to grow, prosper and progress while giving its customers good value for money.

To the men and women of Peerless Integrated Services, Inc. our sincere congratulations and best wishes for continuing success.

Mabuhay!

*Mar Roxas*  
MAR ROXAS  
Secretary



It is with pleasure that I extend my warmest greetings and congratulations to Peerless Integrated Services, Inc. for having been certified BS EN ISO 9002:1994 for its outstanding and strict adherence to a high-level standard for Quality Management System.

The Manpower Industry in the Philippines faces an enormous task of addressing the country's rising demand for both local and foreign employment. To overcome this, highly competent and experienced groups like Peerless Integrated Services, Inc. are needed to promote the competitiveness of the country's labor force by providing quality manpower contracting services as well as manufacturing project sub-contracting and merchandising services.

It is heartwarming to note that your organization has dedicated leaders who staunchly adhere to the promotion, development, and upliftment of the interest of Filipino workers.

Through your latest achievement, it is hoped that more people will be encouraged to follow similar paths of dedication in the service of the Filipinos and the advancement of Philippine business.

Again, congratulations and more power!

*Miguel B. Varela*  
MIGUEL B. VARELA  
Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry



On behalf of the Federation of Philippine Industries, allow me to congratulate PEERLESS INTEGRATED SERVICES, INC., for being the first ISO 9002 certified Manpower and Manufacturing Project Contractor in the Philippines.

Your company's effort to meet world standards enables you to be globally competitive. Being ISO certified means your company can indeed deliver excellent service to your clientele and can comply with all labor standards to ensure the protection of the rights of workers.

Your effort can serve as an example to other manpower and service providers so that flexible working arrangements, which have become a global trend, will find wider acceptance in local industry.

*Raul T. Concepcion*  
RAUL T. CONCEPCION  
Chairman  
Federation of Philippine Industries, Inc.



The Employers Confederation of the Philippines (ECP) wishes to congratulate Peerless Integrated Services, Inc. (PSI) for being a recipient of the ISO 9002 certificate.

Employers are indeed honored by PSI's recognition as a leading manpower contractor in the country today, being the first and only recipient of such certification as a manpower and manufacturing project contractor.

PSI's achievement should catalyze action for other manpower contractors to also be at the forefront in being socially responsible and productivity-oriented.

Recent developments in the area of subcontracting put intense pressure to firms like PSI to expend greater efforts to overcome the immense challenges ahead.

ECP firmly believes that PSI's commitment and impressive track record for the past 31 years will steer the firm to greater heights and at the same time benefit more entrants to the labor force.

*Donald G. Dee*  
DONALD G. DEE  
President  
Employers Confederation of the Philippines



In behalf of the Personal Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP), we would like to congratulate you and your company for having been certified by AJA Registrars and accredited compliant with the requirements of BS EN ISO 9002:1994.

With a quality plan of Peerless Integrated Services, Inc. to satisfactorily meet clients' requirements, this latest achievement of your company would mean high quality service to existing and would-be clients.

We, at PMAP are proud to say that you are one of our members!

*Federico R. Marquez, Jr.*  
FEDERICO R. MARQUEZ, JR., FPM  
President  
PMAP



CONGRATULATIONS to Peerless Integrated Services, Inc. on your ISO 9002 Certification.

You are a pioneer in the industry. And your feet is in line with the association's aim to upgrade the quality of our service for increased competitiveness and quality output.

On behalf of PA-SCON, all its officers and members, we are proud of you! CARRY ON!

*Ma. Socorro M. Malitao*  
MA. SOCORRO M. MALITAO  
PASCON



I am very pleased that Peerless Integrated Services, Inc. (PSI) has achieved the distinction of being the first and only manpower and manufacturing project contracting company in the country to be awarded an ISO 9002 Certification.

In behalf of Peerless, I take pride in accepting the ISO 9002 Certification. The award is another milestone in our continuing commitment to deliver the highest quality service to fully address our clientele's requirements. This pursuit for service excellence, and the flexibility afforded to the clients as our business partners, is expected to pay off in productivity and profitability which are vital in maintaining clients' competitive edge in the new economic order.

My congratulations to the Peerless officers and staff who have exerted much effort to attain this confirmation.

*Valentín Prieto, Jr.*  
VALENTÍN PRIETO, JR.  
PEERLESS INTEGRATED SERVICES, INC.

# Congratulations!



## PEERLESS INTEGRATED SERVICES INCORPORATED

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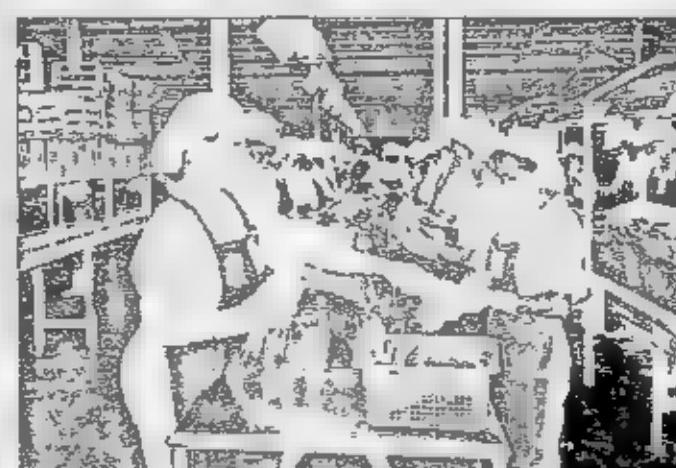
**BS EN ISO 9002:1994**

PEERLESS INTEGRATED SERVICES INC. was incorporated in 1970 to provide Manufacturing Project Sub-Contracting and Manpower Contracting Services. Peerless is also the first and only BS EN ISO 9002:1994 certified Manpower and Manufacturing Project Contractor in the Philippines.

Peerless offers auxiliary and seasonal production sub-contracting and merchandising services utilizing support manpower for tasks involving skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled activities.

Unlike other manpower contractors, Peerless does not merely deploy warm bodies. It develops and installs systems to meet client's requirements to provide them operational flexibility for greater productivity and competitiveness in the new economic order.

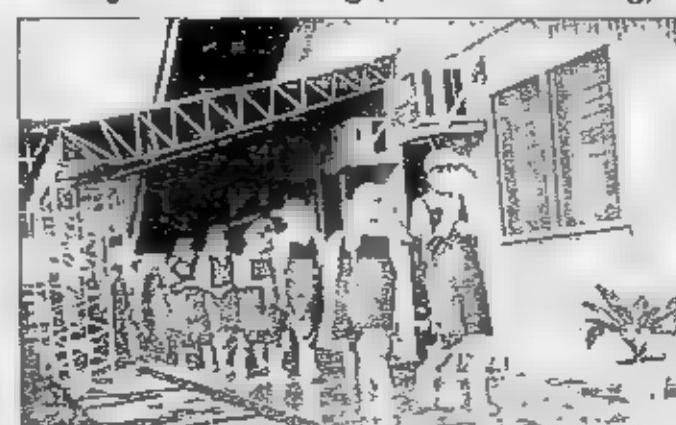
This ISO - 9002 certification is an affirmation of Peerless' continuing commitment to deliver the highest quality service backed by three decades of leadership in the service industry.



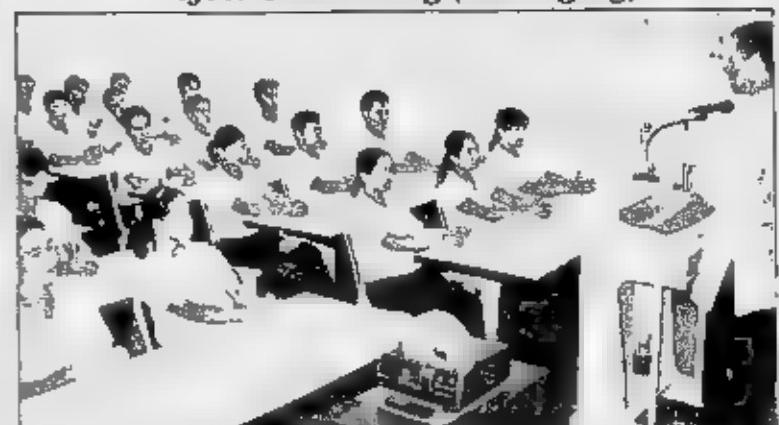
Project Contracting (Food Processing)



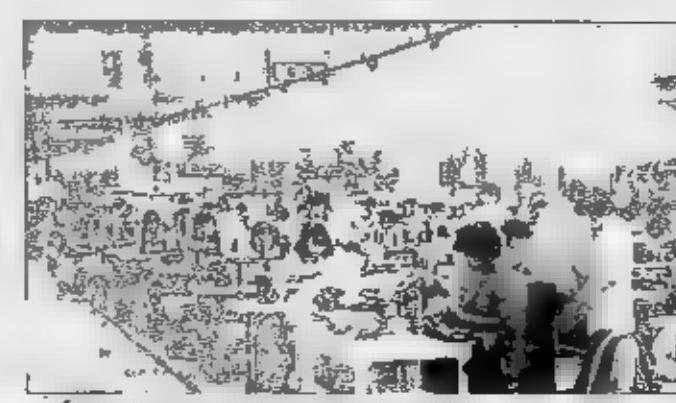
Project Contracting (Packaging)



Manpower Contracting



Training and Development



Project Contracting (Garments)



Project Contracting (Warehousing)

## Zero duty on inputs OK'd

BY GIL C. CABACUNGAN JR.

GOVERNMENT economic agencies have reached a consensus to back local industries' appeal for the reduction to zero of the tariffs on raw and semi-processed materials that are not locally available.

Trade Secretary Manuel "Mar" Roxas II said the Cabinet-level Tariff and Related Matters (TRM) have agreed in principle to approve the proposal, pending a more thorough review on the waiver of duties imposed on the government's tax collection efforts.

The TRM had earlier said that duties on these raw and semi-processed materials were expected to hit P2.5 billion yearly, which Roxas said should have very marginal impact on the government's revenues. The government is expecting a budget deficit of P145 billion this year.

Roxas said the TRM considered the reduction to

zero of the duties on these raw materials as part of the government's continuing efforts to lower the cost of doing business in the country.

The Federation of Philippines Industries made the proposal in order to generate significant savings from the waiver on duties of their raw and semi-processed materials. The FPI said these commodities should not be slapped duties because there were no local industries to protect.

Roxas had asked the FPI to provide the justifications for the zero-duty request. The DTI said the justification should contain all the items requested for coverage, the yearly import volume of the specific products and the estimated revenue loss from the elimination of tariffs. It should also note, the DTI said, the estimated increase in income taxes to be paid to the government that would be brought about by the expected improvement of the industry or company's performance.

## Cocktales

(From page B3)

against the Macapagal administration.

It is not immediately clear how the ouster of Mrs. Ángara will impact on the political accommodation that Ms. Macapagal-Arroyo is trying to work out with the opposition party headed by Sen. Edgardo Angara.

### Copa's holy cows

If the Peping Cojuangco-led Council on Philippine Affairs is no longer carping about Macapagal-Arroyo's choice of appointments, it is because Copa has quietly won several key government positions for their leading members as well.

Peping's other half, Margarita, has managed to snag an appointment as a presidential assistant of sorts. Copa spokesperson Pastor "Boy" Saycon is now a banking regulator, having been appointed to the board of Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp.

Ex-model Patricia Sison is now permanent fixture in the Palace as one of GMA's assistants, as well as a newly minted board member of the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

In addition, Sison's appointment to the sequestered POTC/Philcomsat boards is being pushed by the holdover Erap appointees to the two cash cows, who desire to get a daily insiders' fix on Malacatang happenings.

Sison's husband, lawyer Louie Sison, is of course now the chair of the sequestered Philippine National Construction Corp.

And last, but not the least, Copa booster Hilon Henares Jr. has

made his day again over at Channel 9, after running afoul with the Erap boys at the sequestered TV station late last year.

### Heard through the grapevine

THE OFFICE of the Solicitor General has come to the rescue of beleaguered BIR Commissioner René Bañez by filing with the Supreme Court an administrative complaint against Quezon City Regional Trial Court Judge Rose Marie Alonzo-Legaspi for alleged gross ignorance.

Legaspi issued a TRO against Bañez's order reshuffling the Erap-appointed revenue district officers, on petition from the Erap appointees themselves.

(*Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales.pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales.pdi@hotmail.com.*)



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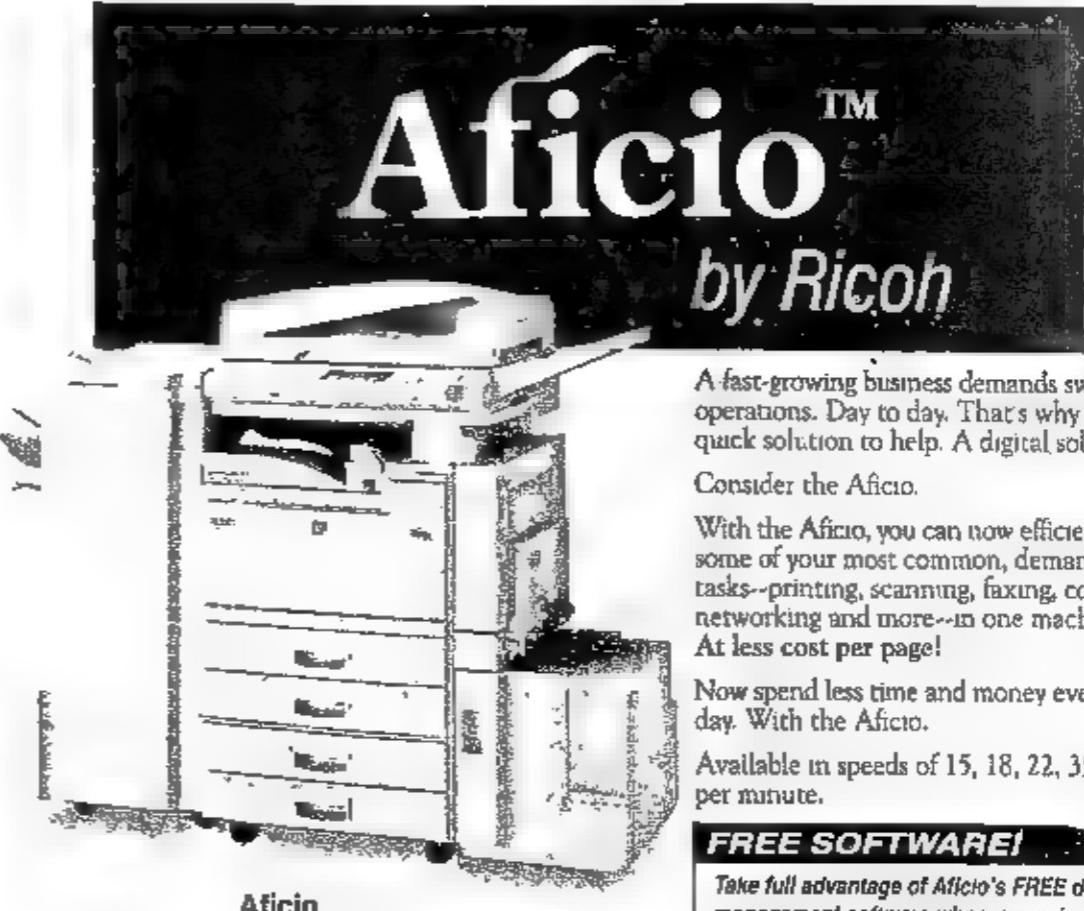
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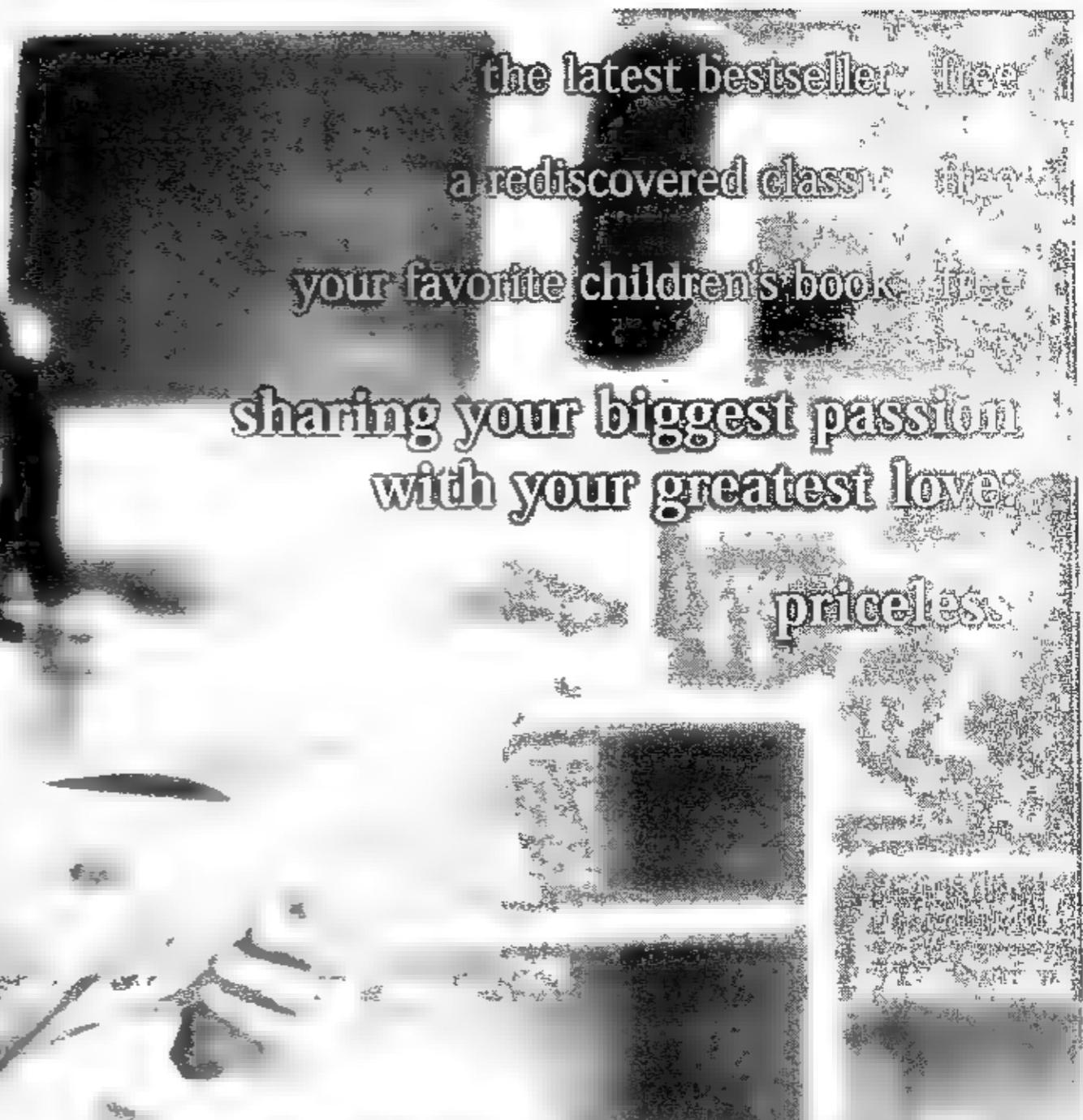
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# BUSINESS Friday

MARGIE QUIMPO-ESPINO, Business Features Editor

## Taking the brand by the horns

BY MARILES GUSTILO  
President & CEO  
Lowe Lintas & Partners

RECENTLY, I came across a statement in one of my readings about consumers and how they relate to brands that said, "People build brands in their heads—whether or not owners of the brand intend them to."

How frightening, I thought to myself, not to be in control of a relationship in which millions of pesos are spent annually. And yet it's true. Much of how we, as individuals, arrive at our view of the world is based on what we infer from our environment, the condition within which we exist, the experiences we have. It's no different from the way we relate to a brand and arrive at a conclusion about it. For us, a brand is more than just a memory peg to distinguish one product against another. It is the result of a collection of impressions we infer based on how we experience it at each of these contact points:

- product performance
- price
- store surroundings
- advertising
- guarantees
- repairs
- service
- speed of delivery
- accessibility

So we know when a brand says one thing and does another. There is no room for ambiguity. Consumers expect clarity and consistency. That's why it's important to make sure our heads as we see fit and not necessarily as intended.

fortunate is the brand owner if what we infer about his brand matches what he had in mind, or if not even better. But what if it isn't? What are brand owners to do to have better control of the brand-consumer relationship?

They must ensure our every encounter with their brand is consistent and satisfying. Only then will they have a chance of winning our loyalty for we are demanding lot. That's because we relate to brands the way we do with each other. We like a certain amount of predictability in our relationships, don't we? We expect no less



"**L**IKE a Pointillist masterpiece, such as George Seurat's 'A Sunday on La Grande Jatte,' where every point of paint is controlled and focused toward creating a single image, your brand accumulates power and your customer relationships gain depth through the coordinated effort of your entire organization."

probably already exists. Ideally inspired by an insight into consumer wants and needs, it is often inadvertently revealed in the details (or the lack of it), erodes the trust we have willingly accorded it. And like human relationships, trust once lost is difficult to win back.

Creating a coherent brand experience will require aligning all consumer contact points with the brand's identity or what I like to call the One Governing Idea (OGI). More often than not, the OGI

is likely to be a "marketing-only" responsibility. Although there is no doubt that marketing and market communications in all its forms (advertising, PR, DM, CRM, etc.) provide the basic framework of any brand-consumer relationship, unfortunately these are not sufficient. Nurturing the brand-consumer relationship must be a company-wide concern. To ensure a certain amount of coherence, a brand's OGI could serve as

an excellent rallying point against which to orchestrate all its activities.

Take for example Starbucks. Its OGI, as I surmised from an article about its co-founder, Howard Schultz, is "a very good cup of coffee, and an inviting place to enjoy it." Our experience from the time you walk through the door to the time you reach the cashier who greets you with a genuine hello, to the time you decide its mocha frappuccino not café latte, to the moment you decide it's tall not grande, there is a consistency to the total product offer that makes you feel comfortable. So you make a mental note to come back again and again. Luxury brands also seem to do a better job at maintaining a "tug-of-war."

Consider BMW, the "ultimate driving machine." Whether it is the superior suspension (the engineering), or the windshield that is said to remain "dry" even when it rains because the raindrops simply slip away (the design) plus of course all those James Bond movies (the marketing), the consumer is given enough cues to experience and therefore the "permission to believe" that it is, in fact, the ultimate.

An article entitled "Brand-Customer Relationship: The Face of Your Organization" goes into great detail in a way of thinking about brands quite eloquently when it said:

"Like a Pointillist masterpiece, such as George Seurat's 'A Sunday on La

Grande Jatte,' where every point of paint is controlled and focused toward creating a single image, your brand accumulates power and your customer relationships gain depth through the coordinated effort of your entire organization."

Though seemingly simple, this way of thinking is easier said than done for it will require many a brand owner to disabuse themselves of current practices, trying new approaches such as cross-functional teams. But, what other alternative is there?

In today's marketplace defined by countless choices and ready access to information, not to mention the high cost of launching new brands these days, efforts at brand coherence seem to make invaluable business sense.



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**BASF**

# In trying times, make your giveaways stand out

BY TINA ARCEO-DUMLAO

**COMPETITION** in the corporate world is not only reflected in the profit and loss statement at the end of every year but also in the design and quality of their giveaways to clients, customers and business partners.

The pharmaceutical industry alone is a heavy user of corporate giveaways, as the right pen, magnet, memo pad or bag can attract paying customers. It can be that simple.

Going into the business of making corporate giveaways, therefore, is a good gamble as companies are always on the lookout for the next hot item to give as incentives to their customers.

Ad-Cubes Inc., based in Paco, Manila, is one of these companies that made it big in the industry of corporate giveaways.

Pharmaceutical firms, top manufacturing corporations, banks and hotels have been regular clients since Ad-Cubes came out with its paper

cubes and colorful notepads in 1980. Ad-Cubes sales supervisor Ruben Ilagan tells the INQUIRER there remains a lot of opportunities in the business for small and medium enterprises who want to break in, but they have to come up with something new to get market away from the existing firms.

"You can not offer the same thing to the same company every year. You have to continue innovating and doing something new. The good thing about this business is that you don't need a lot of capital to start with," Ilagan says.

Dinsmor Magnets, on the other hand, manufactures flexible magnets that can be used as business cards, phonebooks and picture frames. It also manufactures promotional items such as outdoor vinyl stickers, PVC mouse pads and car trash bags.

Dinsmor sales manager Williamson Nocom, who is also one of the partners in the company, says one good thing about the industry is that there are clients all year round



INNOVATION is the key to doing good business amid economic difficulties.

## Not all excess or input VAT can be refunded

BY ARNI P. ABELA-PERLAS  
SGV & Co.

THE VAT system, among others, was introduced in order to simplify the collection of sales tax. The sellers act as tax collectors while the consumers bear the burden of paying the VAT. As tax collectors, the sellers are primarily and legally liable to pay the tax.

VAT is a tax on consumption imposed on the sale of goods and services in the Philippines as well as on imports of goods into the Philippines. An important characteristic of the "VAT" is that the tax is applied only to the value added by the seller over its purchases of goods or services.

The tax credit method is usually used as a method of collecting VAT. In this method, each person registered or required to register for VAT purposes is liable for VAT on its taxable sales of goods or services (output tax), but is allowed a credit or deduction for the VAT paid on its purchases of goods and services, including the VAT paid on purchases of capital equipment (input tax).

If at the end of any taxable quarter, the output tax exceeds the input tax, the excess shall be paid by the VAT-registered person. On the other hand, if the input tax exceeds the output tax, the VAT-registered person may either (1) carry over the excess input tax to the succeeding taxable quarters and deduct the same against its output tax liability for such taxable quarters or (2) claim the refund or the issuance of a tax credit certificate for the said excess input tax.

The following are the categories of input taxes that may be credited against or deducted from the output tax, namely:

1. Input tax credit arises from purchases of goods and services from other VAT-registered persons including purchases of goods or supply of services that are otherwise exempt from VAT but the seller issued a VAT invoice or receipt therefor.

2. Presumptive input tax credit equivalent to 1.5 percent of the gross value in money of purchases of primary agricultural products to be used by persons in the processing of sardines, mackerel, milk, refined sugar and cooking oil.

3. Presumptive input tax credit equivalent to 1.5 percent of the contract price allowed for public work contractors with respect to government contracts only in lieu of actual input taxes therefrom.

4. Transitional input tax credit may be claimed by persons who become liable to VAT for the first time; they represent input tax on inventories existing on the date of commencement of a person's status as a taxable person.

5. VAT on importation of goods.

While the option to carry over excess input taxes to succeeding quarters as credit against output tax from said quarters is always available, the option to seek the refund or issuance of a tax credit certificate for excess input taxes is available only if said excess input taxes are attributable to:

- a. Zero-rated or effectively zero-rated sales of goods or services;
- b. The acquisition of capital goods;
- c. Purchase of land used in VAT taxable business;
- d. Cancellation of VAT registration due to retirement, change or cessation of status as a VAT-registered person.

e. VAT paid on imported or locally purchased capital goods.

### Claims for refund

Claims for refund or tax credit of excess input VAT under Revenue Regulation 7-95 shall be filed with the appropriate revenue district office having jurisdiction over the principal place of business of the taxpayer. The application shall be made within two years after the close of the taxable quarter when the sales were made or after the date of the retirement, change or cessation of status of the business. The regulation further provides that in proper cases, the commissioner shall grant a tax credit or refund for the input taxes applied for within 120 days from the date of submission of complete documents in support of the application.

If no action on the claim for tax credit/refund is taken by the commissioner after the 120-day period from the date of the submission of the application but before the lapse of the two-year period from the date of filing of the VAT return for the taxable quarter, appeal may be made to the Court of Tax Appeals. However, in case of full or partial denial of the claim for tax credit/refund, the taxpayer may appeal the inaction or denial of the claim to the Court of Tax Appeals within 30 days from receipt of such denial, otherwise the decision will become final.

Is your company's excess/unutilized input tax refundable?

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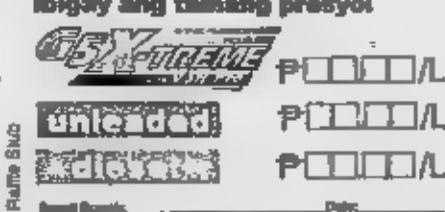
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### Ibigay ang tamang presyo!



although the Christmas season is still the peak season.

"The key to doing well in this business is to be in good terms with your clients. I believe that this is a relationship business, and you should try to build trust," Nocom says.

Nocom says Dinsmor started producing magnets since 1996 and business has been good despite the economic difficulties, but of course it could be better.

"There is still so much room for us to grow," Nocom says.

It is quite a challenge, however, to increase revenues these days as corporations have become much more budget conscious. Quality sometimes has to make way for cost.

Fern Lumberio of Filipinas Alfa Co. Inc. says many corporations have even cut their budgets, making it difficult for companies selling big-ticket corporate giveaways to meet sales targets.

"These days companies are conscious about their budget, not about the quality of the giveaway itself. This is understandable because of the

economic difficulties," Nocom explains.

Ramon Sicat, president of Xian International Corp., adds that some corporations have reduced the quantity of the orders as they are now more selective in the people they give the gifts to.

Corporations, he says, usually have three categories of corporate giveaways. There is the high-end gifts for executives that are worth at least P200, going up to as much as P1,000.

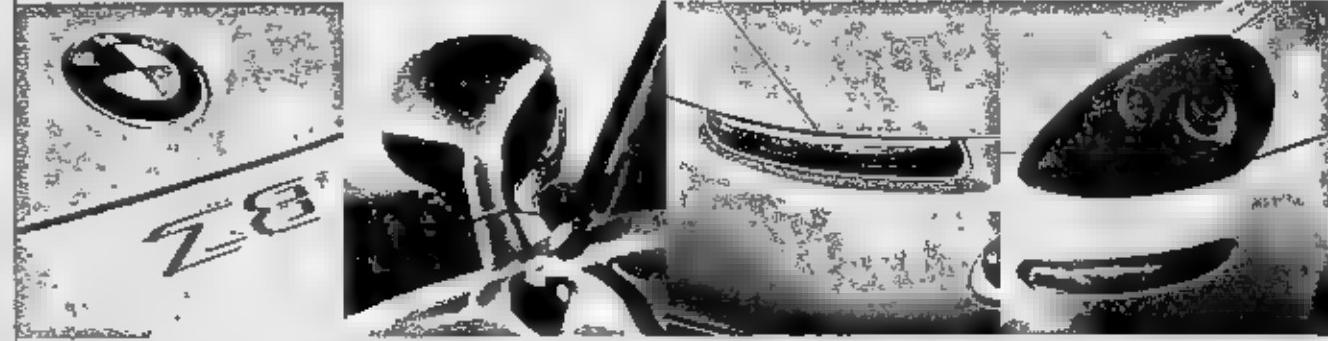
The medium-range items cost between P50 and P100 while the items for mass distribution cost from P10 to P40 each.

"These have always been the prices that we work with. Since companies don't have too much control on the price, they cut on costs by reducing the quantity," Sicat explains.

He, however, says that it is still possible to increase sales despite these difficulties by making your corporate giveaways stand out, combining good price with quality items.

Xian has been in business for seven years and produces custom-printed porcelain/ceramic mugs, glassware, stuffed toys, penholders and desk calendar imported from Hong Kong, Korea, Taiwan and China.

## A rare event: the un-sedate Z8. Available for viewing July 20, 21 and 22.



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# People, Events & Products

Adres B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor

aespinoza@inquirer.com.ph

## NCRFW welcomes new leadership

MOVING on with the pace of the Macapagal-Arroyo administration, the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW) welcomed its new commissioners in a simple turnover ceremony last June 2. "We will build on the gains of the past in making the bureaucracy work better for women, and pursue new goals for women's human rights and economic empowerment," said chair Aurora Javate-de Dios.

For 25 years, the NCRFW has been acting as the advisory body of the President and her/his cabinet on policies and programs for the advancement of Filipino women. Its board is composed of secretaries of various departments and NGOs representing various sectors.

The NGO commissioners are Isabelita Palanca to represent business and industry, Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez for media and arts, Germelyn Espana for urban poor, Juanita Gomez for peasants

and fisherfolk, Victoria Corpuz for indigenous peoples, Zenaida Avocena for the elderly and disabled, Jurgette Honculada for labor, Encarnacion Raralo for science and health, Myrna Feliciano for academic/education, Amelou Benitez-Reyes for culture, and Myrna Yao for the National Council of Women in the Philippines.

The secretaries of the following departments also sit as ex officio members: labor and employment (Dole), National Economic and Development Authority (Neda), social welfare and development (DSWD), education, culture and sports (DECS), health (DOH), foreign affairs (DFA), interior and local government (DILG), trade and industry (DTI) and budget and management (DBM).

One of the priority tasks of the new NCRFW board is firming up the implementation of the gender and development (GAD) budget.

"In line with the thrust of the Macapagal-Arroyo administration to alleviate poverty and deliver broad-based development, NCRFW will continue to work hard so that Filipino women can participate more actively in the mainstream development process," said de Dios.

"It can be said that Filipino women are in a much better position than their sisters from the Southeast Asia region. Still, there are lot of issues that we have to address, such as the rising incidence of violence against women, lack of women's economic opportunities, and the feminization of poverty, among others," said de Dios.



PHOTO BY JESUITA LAGUNA FOR INQUIRER.NET

## Energy forum tackles Power Reform Act

WHAT is in store for the energy and power industry after the enactment of the Electric Power Industry Reform Act?

This will be amply discussed during the three-day PowerTech Business Forum 2001 scheduled for Sept. 25 to 27 at the World Trade Center.

PowerTech will be held concurrently with PowerTrends 2001, the fourth international exhibition on new trends in technologies for energy and power engineering.

Held every two years since 1995, PowerTrends offers power and energy players the opportunity to present their ideas, products and services to the new leadership of the industry in the Philippines.

PowerTrends 2001 will bring to the Philippines industry leaders from all over the world who, besides displaying their latest products, technologies and services, will also be able to interact with their counterparts from the Philippines during the business forum.

The interactions will be timely and appropriate since the Philippines is restructuring the power industry as mandated by the Power Reform Act. The Act also paves the way for the privatization of the National Power Corporation.

Up for exhibition in PowerTrends 2001 are emerging technologies for new and renewable energy and various technologies for energy and power generation ranging from power plants and generating sets and systems to power distribution and transmission.

PowerTrends is organized by Singapore-based Interfama International and International Philippines. Interested companies may get in touch with Elizabeth Cruz or Robert Sanchez at (632) 618-6828 or e-mail lvige@netasia.net.



PHOTO BY JESUITA LAGUNA FOR INQUIRER.NET

**MOST OUTSTANDING COUNTRYSIDE PARTNER**  
Anchor Savings Bank was recently awarded most outstanding countryside partner for 2000 by Land Bank of the Philippines under the countryside and agricultural loan fund facilities. Anchor Bank received the recognition for its dedication and commitment to provide support to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the countryside. The bank's president, Evangelie C. Escobilo (center) received the award together with Edgardo G. Valencia, vice chair (left) and Ruperto M. Carpio, treasurer (second from left). Those who handed the award were Alberto Romulo, Executive Secretary and concurrent Finance Secretary (third from left), Gary Teves, Land Bank president (third from right), Antonio Alindogan Jr., BSP monetary board member (second from right) and Arie Chupak, World Bank representative and task manager.

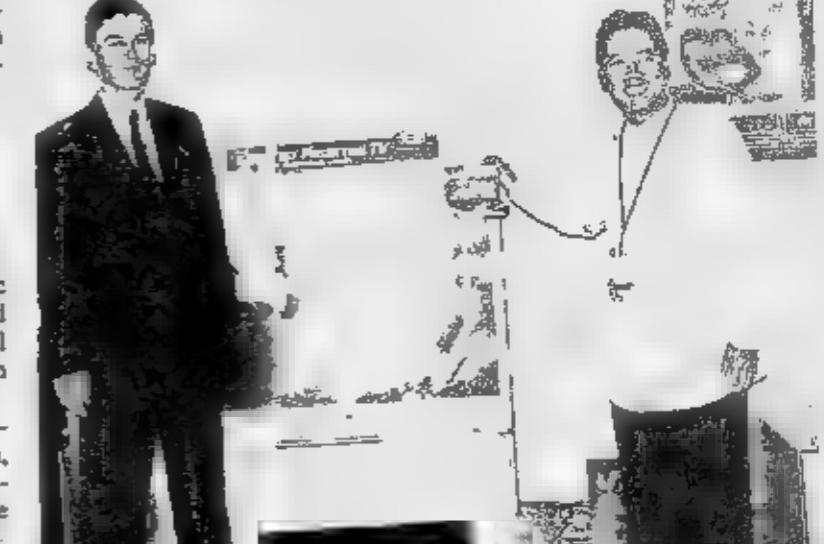


PHOTO BY JESUITA LAGUNA FOR INQUIRER.NET

**TOP PHILIPS EXECUTIVES IN REGIONAL LAUNCH**  
Top executives of Philips Consumer Electronics, one of the world's top consumer electronic companies, recently gathered for a regional launch in Bali, Indonesia to witness the unveiling of the newest and most advanced Philips audio and video products. These products will soon be available in Asian countries, including the Philippines. Frans van Houten (left), PCE executive vice president for Asia Pacific, Middle East and Africa and Tony Lim, general manager of PCE-Philippines, show off the latest Philips video products during the launch.



PHOTO BY JESUITA LAGUNA FOR INQUIRER.NET

## Nestle scholars recognized

A NEW batch of Nestle scholars, children of personnel of the company's Cabuyao, Pusilan and Ice Cream factories, were recognized recently in separate ceremonies. The Nestle scholars are deserving students selected through a rigorous process, and must maintain high standards of academic performance.

The new Cabuyao scholars are: Crystal Alvarez, Zyray Jay Arevalo, Don Nathaniel Atienza, Rosette Atienza, Nicolo Cervantes, Reginald Diaz, Derwin Diasanta, Marvin Jay Gokesan, Patricia Maricara Gonzales, Julie Irene Guerrero, Alyana Gelina Islands, Janilla Kennedy, Jennika Lumbara, Blaise Manzuelo, Erian Rowe Masangong, Alyanna Santos and Lodevico Ulpo, Jr.

The Pusilan scholars are Angelica Marie Bautista and Ramon Agustin Manuel.

The ICD scholars are Ma. Michaels Albarico, Mark Anthony B. Brilantes, Beverly Rose Caparas, Ron Bien Culvera, Joaquin Dominguez, Moses Esperanza, Christine Gabiola, Mary Ann Luna, Kristine Joy Marcelino, Timothy Joseph Orillaza, Ned Krishan, Bacolod Pesca, Jamaine Punzalan, Maria Ranas and Gerylyn Tibayan.

**THE POWER OF TEN**  
Apple Philippines recently launched Apple Computer's latest software, the Mac OS X, at Hard Rock Café. Over 450 students, IT professionals, businessmen and filmmakers attended to experience this new super-modern operating system that combines the power and stability of Unix with the legendary simplicity and elegance of the Macintosh. Mac OS X includes Apple's new Quartz 2D graphics engine that's based on the Internet-standard Portable Document Format for stunning graphics and broad font support; OpenGL for spectacular 3D graphics and gaming; and QuickTime for streaming audio and video. Mac OS X also features an entirely new user interface called Aqua, combining superior ease of use with amazing new functionality such as the Dock, a breakthrough for organizing applications, documents and document windows. Photo shows Apple Philippines country manager Charlie Tang showing off the new Mac OS X software with the all-new iMac computer and the new Power Mac G4 Cube processor.

## CAP BREAKS GROUND FOR AUDITORIUM

College Assurance Plan (CAP) breaks ground for a new building and development center (CDC) in Davao City, extending its mission of service and commitment. The new CDC will have a capacity of 2,000. CAP now has 56 owned buildings and 18 CDCs nationwide. Present during the groundbreaking ceremonies were (from left) SEVP Crescencio Bendijo, DRM Frank Buno, DRM Judith Manligoy, DRM Connie Magbanua, CRH Rosendo Wong, EVP Chester Navales, CRH Lolita Lupiba, Col. Zacharias Morales, CRH Zella Maquio and FEVP Jose Montoya.



PHOTO BY JESUITA LAGUNA FOR INQUIRER.NET

**MONDEX AWARDED AT E-COMMERCE EXPO**  
Mondex Philippines Inc., the exclusive local franchisee holder of an innovative e-cash payment system called the Mondex Card, was recently awarded third runner-up for best booth during the country's first E-Commerce Expo 2001 held at the SM Megatrade Hall of SM Megamall, EDSA, Mandaluyong City. The event brought together some of the most prominent and influential individuals and businesses that are making a significant impact in the rapid development of the local IT industry. During the three-day expo, the Mondex booth demonstrated to interested guests how the microchip-based card could make even the most complex transactions simple and convenient. Mondex president Benjie Fernandez (far left) poses with Mondex Philippines staff at their winning booth.

RESOLUTION NO. 01-9949

WHEREAS, Section 11, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights;

WHEREAS, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Human Rights (June 1993) and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women (September 1995) reaffirm the equal rights and inherent human dignity of women and men, and particularly that human rights of women as an indispensable, integral and indivisible part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

WHEREAS, the Philippines, with other States of the World, has reaffirmed, through the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, its solemn commitment to fulfil its obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, other instruments relating to human rights, and international law;

WHEREAS, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action stresses that all forms of sexual harassment are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person and must be eliminated by legal measures and through national action, while the Beijing Platform for Action specifically mandates Governments to "enact and/or reinforce penal, civil, labour and administrative sanctions in domestic legislation to punish and redress" violence against women including sexual harassment and "develop programmes and procedures to eliminate sexual harassment and other forms of violence against women in all educational institutions, workplaces and elsewhere";

WHEREAS, the Philippine Congress enacted on February 14, 1995 Republic Act No. 7877, otherwise known as the "Anti-Sexual Harassment Act of 1995" which took effect on March 5, 1995 and declares unlawful sexual harassment against women and men in the employment, education and training institutions;

WHEREAS, Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7877 mandates every employer or head of agency in the public and private sectors to promulgate rules and regulations prescribing the procedure for the investigation of sexual harassment cases and the administrative actions to be taken;

WHEREAS, there is a need to devise uniform rules and regulations particularly in the definition of the administrative offense of sexual harassment and the sanctions therefor, and the procedures for the administrative investigation, prosecution and adjudication of sexual harassment cases;

WHEREAS, Section 2, Article D-18 of the 1987 Constitution, Section 1 and Section 12 (19), Schedule A, Title of Book V of the Administrative Code of 1987 (Executive Order No. 2321 and Section 4 (18), Republic Act No. 4713, otherwise known as the "Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees," empower the Civil Service Commission, as the central personnel agency of the Government, to adopt positive measures for the observance of substantive and procedural administrative standards, including standards for the personal conduct of government officials and employees. In order to promote morale, efficiency, integrity, responsiveness and probity in service in the entire government bureaucracy;

WHEREAS, Section 4 of Republic Act No. 4713 provides norms of personal conduct for public officials and employees to observe in the performance of official duties, and specifically directs that they shall act without discrimination against anyone, and shall at all times respect the rights of others and refrain from doing acts contrary to law, good morals, good customs, public policy, public order, public safety and public interest;

WHEREAS, sexual harassment violates the dignity of workers and their right to a humane, just and safe work environment. Defeats and impairs morale and efficiency in the workplace, and violates the merit and fitness principle in the civil service.

NOW THEREFORE, this Commission hereby promulgates these Rules and Regulations defining the administrative offense of sexual harassment and prescribing the standard procedure for the administrative investigation, prosecution and resolution of sexual harassment cases in the public sector.

#### RULE I. TITLE

Section 1. These Rules shall be known as the Administrative Disciplinary Rules on Sexual Harassment Cases.

#### RULE II. COMMISSION

Section 2. These Rules shall apply to all officials and employees in government, whether in the Career or Non-Career service and holding any level of position, including Presidential appointees and elective officials regardless of status, in the national or local government, state colleges and universities, including government-owned or controlled corporations, with original charters.

#### RULE III. DISCIPLINE

Section 3. For the purpose of these Rules, the administrative offense of sexual harassment is an act, or a series of acts, involving any unwelcome sexual advance, request or demand for a sexual favor, or other verbal or physical behavior of a sexual nature committed by a government employee or official in a work-related, training or education related environment of the person complained of.

(1) Work-related sexual harassment is committed under the following circumstances:

(i) Submission to or rejection of the act or series of acts is used as a basis for any employment decision including, but not limited to, matters related to hiring, promotion, raise in salary, job security, benefits and any other personnel action affecting the applicant/employee; or

(ii) the act or series of acts have the purpose or effect of interfering with the complainant's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment; or

(iii) the act or series of acts might reasonably be expected to cause discrimination, insecurity, discomfort, offense or humiliation to a complainant who may be a co-worker, applicant, customer, or ward of the person complained of.

(iv) submission to or rejection of the act or series of acts is used as a basis for any decision affecting the complainant, including, but not limited to, the giving of a grade, the granting of honors or a scholarship, the payment of a stipend or allowance, or the giving of any benefit, privilege or consideration;

(v) the act or series of acts have the purpose or effect of interfering with the performance, or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive academic environment of the complainant; or

(vi) the act or series of acts might reasonably be expected to cause discrimination, insecurity, discomfort, offense or humiliation to a complainant who may be a relative, apprentice, intern, trustee or ward of the person complained of.

Section 4. Sexual harassment may take place:



Republic of the Philippines  
Civil Service Commission

## Administrative Disciplinary Rules on Sexual Harassment Cases

1. In the premises of the workplace or offices or of the school or training institution;
2. In any place where the parties were found as a result of work or education or training responsibilities, or rotations;
3. at work or education or training-related social functions;
4. while on official business outside the office or school or training institution or during work or school or training-related travel;
5. through telephone, facsimile, fax machine or electronic mail;
6. by telephone, cellular phone, fax machine or electronic mail;

#### RULE IV. FORMS OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT

##### Section 5. The following are illustrative forms of sexual harassment:

1. Physical contact;
2. Molestation;
3. Covert sexual advances;
4. Threats with or without threats and intimidations;
5. Repeated or persistent graphic, written or verbal jokes with sexual innuendos;
6. Other forms such as, but not limited to:

##### BULL V. PERSONS LIABLE FOR SEXUAL HARASSMENT

##### Section 6. The following are illustrative forms of sexual harassment:

1. Any government official or employee regardless of sex, is liable for sexual harassment when he/she:
2. Directly participates in the execution of any act of sexual harassment as defined by these Rules;
3. Induces or directs another or others to commit sexual harassment as defined by these Rules;
4. Cooperates in the commission of sexual harassment by another through an act without which the sexual harassment would not have been accomplished;

##### Section 7. COMMITTEE ON DECORUM AND INVESTIGATION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT

##### Section 8. A Committee on Decorum and Investigation shall be created in all national or local agencies of the government, state colleges and universities, including government-owned or controlled corporations with original charters. The Committee shall perform the following functions:

1. To receive complaints of sexual harassment;
2. To conduct investigations in accordance with the rules and regulations issued in accordance with the provisions of these Rules;
3. To submit recommendations to the disciplining authority for the disposition of the case;
4. To lead in the conduct of discussions about sexual harassment within the agency or institution to increase understanding and prevent incidents of sexual harassment;

##### Section 9. The Committee on Decorum and Investigation shall determine specific factors which are obviously different from the administrative proceeding, if any, in the handling of sexual harassment cases, such as the nature of the offense, the nature of the respondent, the nature of the witness, the nature of the evidence, the nature of the hearing, the nature of the investigation, and the nature of the record.

Section 10. Composition. - In a work-related environment, the Committee on Decorum and Investigation established in the regional or field offices, as the case may be, of the agency or institution shall have the same functions as stated above and shall submit the report of investigation with its recommendation directly to the disciplining authority.

When a member of the Committee is the complainant or the person complained of in a sexual harassment case, he/she shall be disqualified from being a member of the Committee.

Section 11. Composition. - In a work-related environment, the Committee on Decorum and Investigation shall be composed of at least one (1) representative each from the management, the accredited union, if any, the second level employees, and from the first level employees, duly selected by the unit concerned.

In an educational or training institution, the Committee shall be composed of at least one (1) representative from the administrator, the trainers, heads, institutions, professors or coaches, and students or trainees, as the case may be, duly selected by the level concerned.

Section 12. The agency may formulate its own rules governing the term of office of its members which should not be more than two years, and other matters pertaining to the functions of the Committee not otherwise provided in these Rules.

#### RULE V. PRE-FILING STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT

##### Section 13. The Pre-filing Stage. - The agency may adopt mechanisms to provide assistance to an alleged victim of sexual harassment which may include counseling, referral to an agency offering professional help, and advice on options available before the filing of the complaint.

#### RULE VI. STANDARD PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

##### Section 14. The procedural rules provided herein are the standard requirements in handling sexual harassment cases.

##### Section 15. Complaint.

a. The complainant may be filed at any time with the disciplining authority of the office or agency, or with the Committee on Decorum and Investigation. Upon receipt of the complaint by the disciplining authority of the office or agency, the same shall be transmitted to the Committee on Decorum and Investigation, if there is any. In the absence of a Committee on Decorum and Investigation, the head of office or agency shall immediately cause the creation of a Committee on Decorum and Investigation in accordance with the law and rules, and inform the complainant to the Committee.

b. The complainant must be in writing, signed and sworn to by the complainant. It shall contain the following:

1. the full name and address of the complainant;
2. the full name, address, and position of the respondent;
3. a brief statement of the relevant facts;
4. evidence, in support of the complaint, if any;
5. a certificate of non-fraud.

In the absence of any one of the aforementioned requirements, the complaint shall be dismissed without prejudice to its filing.

Where the complainant is not under oath, the complainant shall be summoned by the Committee in answer to the truth of the allegations in the complaint.

c. Complainant send a telegram, radiogram, electronic mail or similar means of communication shall comply with the requirements provided in Section 17(b) within ten (10) days from receipt of the notice.

d. Within 10 days after receipt of the notice of the respondent, the complainant may file a complaint with the Commission on Decorum and Investigation proceeding with the investigation where there is obvious truth or merit in the allegations in the complaint or where there is documentary or direct evidence that can prove the guilt of the person complained of.

Section 16. Action on the Complaint. - Upon receipt of a complaint that is sufficient in law and substance, the Committee on Decorum and Investigation shall require the person complained of to submit a Counter-Affidavit/Comment under oath within three (3) days from receipt of the notice, furnishing a copy thereof to the complainant, otherwise the

Section 17. Sexual harassment may take place:

#### Section 18. Continuous Hearing Until Resolved

##### Section 19. Duration of the Investigation. - A preliminary investigation shall be conducted by the Committee on Decorum and Investigation. The investigation involves the examination of documents submitted by the complainant and the person complained of, as well as documents readily available from other government offices.

During the preliminary investigation, the parties may submit documents and counter-affidavits.

Upon receipt of the counter-affidavit or comment

under oath, the Committee on Decorum and Investigation may now recommend whether a prima facie case exists to warrant the issuance of a formal

order of inquiry.

During preliminary investigation, proceedings before the Committee on Decorum and Investigation shall be conducted as follows:

Section 20. Duration of the Investigation. - A preliminary investigation shall commence by the Committee on Decorum and Investigation. The investigation involves the examination of documents submitted by the complainant and the person complained of, as well as documents readily available from other government offices.

During the preliminary investigation, the parties may submit documents and counter-affidavits.

Upon receipt of the counter-affidavit or comment

under oath, the Committee on Decorum and Investigation may now recommend whether a prima facie case exists to warrant the issuance of a formal

order of inquiry.

During preliminary investigation, proceedings before the Committee on Decorum and Investigation shall be conducted as follows:

Section 21. Investigation Report. - Within five (5) working days from the termination of the preliminary investigation, the Committee on Decorum and Investigation shall submit the Investigation Report and the complete records of the case to the disciplining authority.

Section 22. Preliminary Hearing. - At the start of the hearing, the Committee on Decorum and Investigation shall note the appearances of the parties and shall proceed with the reception of evidence for the hearing.

Section 23. Duration of the Investigation. - A preliminary investigation shall commence by the Committee on Decorum and Investigation. The investigation involves the examination of documents submitted by the complainant and the person complained of, as well as documents readily available from other government offices.

During the preliminary investigation, the parties may submit documents and counter-affidavits.

Upon receipt of the counter-affidavit or comment

under oath, the Committee on Decorum and Investigation may now recommend whether a prima facie case exists to warrant the issuance of a formal

order of inquiry.

During preliminary investigation, proceedings before the Committee on Decorum and Investigation shall be conducted as follows:

Section 24. Duration of the Investigation. - A preliminary investigation shall commence by the Committee on Decorum and Investigation. The investigation involves the examination of documents submitted by the complainant and the person complained of, as well as documents readily available from other government offices.

During the preliminary investigation, the parties may submit documents and counter-affidavits.

Upon receipt of the counter-affidavit or comment

under oath, the Committee on Decorum and Investigation may now recommend whether a prima facie case exists to warrant the issuance of a formal

order of inquiry.

During preliminary investigation, proceedings before the Committee on Decorum and Investigation shall be conducted as follows:

Section 25. Duration of the Investigation. - A preliminary investigation shall commence by the Committee on Decorum and Investigation. The investigation involves the examination of documents submitted by the complainant and the person complained of, as well as documents readily available from other government offices.

During the preliminary investigation, the parties may submit documents and counter-affidavits.

Upon receipt of the counter-affidavit or comment

under oath, the Committee on Decorum and Investigation may now recommend whether a prima facie case exists to warrant the issuance of a formal

order of inquiry.

During preliminary investigation, proceedings before the Committee on Decorum and Investigation shall be conducted as follows:

Section 26. Duration of the Investigation. - A preliminary investigation shall commence by the Committee on Decorum and Investigation. The investigation involves the examination of documents submitted by the complainant and the person complained of, as well as documents readily available from other government offices.

During the preliminary investigation, the parties may submit documents and counter-affidavits.

Upon receipt of the counter-affidavit or comment

under oath, the Committee on Decorum and Investigation may now recommend whether a prima facie case exists to warrant the issuance of a formal

order of inquiry.

During preliminary investigation, proceedings before the Committee on Decorum and Investigation shall be conducted as follows:

Section 27. Duration of the Investigation. - A preliminary investigation shall commence by the Committee on Decorum and Investigation. The investigation involves the examination of documents submitted by the complainant and the person complained of, as well as documents readily available from other government offices.

During the preliminary investigation, the parties may submit documents and counter-affidavits.

Upon receipt of the counter-affidavit or comment

under oath, the Committee on Decorum and Investigation may now recommend whether a prima facie case exists to warrant the issuance of a formal

order of inquiry.

During preliminary investigation, proceedings before the Committee on Decorum and Investigation shall be conducted as follows:

Section 28. Duration of the Investigation. - A preliminary investigation shall commence by the Committee on Decorum and Investigation. The investigation involves the examination of documents submitted by the complainant and the person complained of, as well as documents readily available from other government offices.

During the preliminary investigation, the parties may submit documents and counter-affidavits.

Upon receipt of the counter-affidavit or comment

under oath, the Committee on Decorum and Investigation may now recommend whether a prima facie case exists to warrant the issuance of a formal

order of inquiry.

During preliminary investigation, proceedings before the Committee on Decorum and Investigation shall be conducted as follows:

Section 29. Duration of the Investigation. - A preliminary investigation shall commence by the Committee on Decorum and Investigation. The investigation involves the examination of documents submitted by the complainant and the person complained of, as well as documents readily available from other government offices.

During the preliminary investigation, the parties may submit documents and counter-affidavits.

Upon receipt of the counter-affidavit or comment



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**CARMEN P. MATA**

Former Secretary of the Institute of Education and Professor of Mathematics at the Far Eastern University peacefully joined our Lord on July 18, 2001 at the age of 92.

Her sisters Rosario M. Mendoza (†), Leonila M. Abesamis, Patrocinio M. Sales (†), Tomasa M. de Leon; her nephews and nieces Purita (†) and Jaime Blanco, Augusta and Benny Mendoza, Edgardo and Margarita Mendoza, Armando Mendoza (†), Josefina and Cecilio Wycoen, Antonio (†) and Sol Abesamis, Lilia (†) and Bernardo Zialcita, Dely and Tommy Mallonga, Sonia and Eddie del Casal, Josie and Guillermo Gutierrez, Carminda and Teddy Regala, Cesar and Bing de Leon, Cynthia and Mario de Leon, and Normando de Leon and other relatives request the pious readers to join them in praying for the eternal repose of her soul.

A Funeral Mass will be held on Saturday, July 20, 2001 at 4:00 p.m. at the Sta. Rita de Cascia Church, Chapel of the Resurrection, at the Philam Homes Village, Quezon City. Her remains will be there until 7:00 p.m., Sunday, July 22.

**We know that God raised the Lord Jesus from death. He will raise us to life with Jesus. He will present us, along with you, to God.**

2 Cor. 4:14

**NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY**

Quezon City

**INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID**

The NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA) invites all major Telecommunication Companies to submit sealed bids for the agency's subscription of Frame Relay Service for Wide Area Network Communication Facility to be installed at Central Office and fourteen (14) Regional Offices. The schedule of bidding activities is as follows:

- July 23-25, 2001 - Issuance of List of Pre-qualification Requirements
- July 31, 2001 - Deadline of submission of pre-qualification documents
- August 6-7, 2001 - Issuance of bid documents
- August 11, 2001 - Pre-bidding conference (10:00 AM)
- August 17, 2001 - Submission of bid proposals (9:15 - 10:00 AM)
- (10:15 AM) - Opening of bid proposals

Pre-qualification forms and requirements can be secured from and submitted to PBAC Secretariat, ODAFA, 7th Floor, Malimaya Building, 101 E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Quezon City. Bidding documents may likewise be secured from PBAC Secretariat and the same shall be issued to pre-qualified bidders upon payment of P2,000.00 non-refundable fee.

NFA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY/INFORMALITY OF THE BIDS RECEIVED AND TO ACCEPT ONLY SUCH BIDS WHICH ARE ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY

(Sgd.) EDGAR S. ASUNCION  
Deputy Administration and Chairman, PBAC

(PDI - July 13, 20 & 21, 2001)

**LOOKING FOR PROPERTY TO SELL**

The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission - Project Management Office is currently looking for a 5-hectare property for its proposed Septage Treatment Plant project. Among others, the property should meet the following criteria:

- Within Metro Manila
- Accessible to any major road/s
- Close to drainage line, creek or river
- Absence of informal settlers (squatters)
- Minimal/no reclamation requirement
- Minima/no site development requirement
- Relative distance from residential areas

Interested property owners should send their sealed documents, together with the lot plan, vicinity map and price proposals, not later than August 3, 2001 to:

The Executive Director  
Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission  
4F PMS Building, Arlegui Street  
San Miguel, Manila

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**Vicente T. Calma**

(of Bulacan and Davao City)

July 20, 1916 - July 6, 1981

On his 85th birthday and 20th death anniversary his wife Vining, children and grandchildren request his friends and relatives to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

Sta. Niño de Paz ..... July 20, 2001  
Greenbelt, Makati 12:00 noon

Assumption Church ..... July 20, 2001  
F. Torres St., Davao City 5:45 p.m.

**FELICIANO "Felicing" ADORABLE**

of Pakil, Laguna

Peacefully joined our Lord on July 17, 2001 at the age of 80.

His bereaved wife Purificacion; children Boy and Baby; daughter-in-law Ebol; sisters Ines and Patrocinia; grandchildren Axel, Orvin, Jojo, Pia, Gerry, Maan, MJ, Reggie and Lyza; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Chapel D, Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadalupe, Makati City. He will be laid to rest at the Loyola Memorial Park in Marikina on Saturday, July 21, 2001 after the 1:00 p.m. Mass.

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**CLASSIFIEDS****Message of Thanks**

We, the family of the late

**MARCELA L. LIWANAG**

who joined our Lord on July 13, 2001

wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to all of you, who during our time of bereavement, condoled with us, offered and said Masses, prayers and flowers, kept vigil and joined us in the interment.

**PAGSASAKA AT PANGINGISA**

(National Agricultural and Fishery Council)  
Diliman, Lungsod ng Quezon  
Tel. No. 928-87-41 to 65 local 516

Tender No. 24th RP-JPPP/2001/01 July 16, 2001

**INVITATION TO BID**

The National Agricultural and Fishery Council (NAFC) hereby invites sealed bids for the sale of 81,713 metric tons of Ammonium Sulphate fertilizer for September 2001 to March 2002 shipments.

Tender documents can be secured from the Bids and Awards Committee, NAFC, Apacible Hall, Department of Agriculture Bldg., Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City starting on July 20, 2001

The pre-bid conference shall be held on July 27, 2001 at 2:00 p.m. at the NAFC Maynila Conference Room, 4th Floor, DA Building, Diliman, Quezon City.

Fully completed sealed bids should be submitted not later than 2:00 p.m. on July 31, 2001. Bids received after the scheduled time will not be accepted/entertained and will be returned unopened.

For details please contact Mr. Joseph de los Santos or Ms. Peachy Agustin at telephone nos. 928-19-66 or 929-82-34.

(Sgd.) RICARDO A. VILLO, JR.  
Executive Director

(PDI - July 19 & 20, 2001)

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#### Convenience to the Workplace

World-class industrial estates and manufacturing plants of leading corporations are your neighbors, so work is just a few minutes away. The Alabang-Muntinlupa business hub is less than an hour's drive away via the Metro Skyway. And there's a village shuttle bus to take you straight to your office in Makati.



Village Shopping at Its Best

Village shops are conveniently located around the community to cater to your immediate needs. And the Laguna BelAir Commercial Center and The Strip along Rodeo Drive will soon bring banks, fast food, clinics, mini-supermarkets and cinemas within easy reach.

#### A School of Your Own

Laguna BelAir is right in the middle of an excellent academic environment. A DECS-accredited science high school, the Laguna BelAir School offers an advanced curriculum oriented towards science, math and information technology. Also close by are prestigious schools like Brent School, La Salle, Don Bosco and University of Asia and the Pacific.

#### 365 Days of Leisure

A pristine leisure park hidden away within the village walls, bursting with water features and lush greenery, promises endless pleasures—from a lagoon for boating and fishing to a children's playground, an aviary, a flower and butterfly garden, covered walkways and viewing decks.

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CHILO BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor ■ MARGE C. ENRIQUEZ, Subsection Editor



**ANIMAL MAGNETISM.** Wear a fake fur coat by Raoul Ramirez over a three-fourths non-wired bra and side seam-free tanga.

# Pinoy undies undo the competition

BY MARGE C. ENRIQUEZ  
PHOTOS BY WARIO GUERRERO

**I**N THE RETAIL scene, some businesses fare better than others. Garment manufacturers are realizing that no matter how tough times get, people will always buy underwear.

The undergarments industry in the Philippines has taken off recently due to the proliferation of foreign advertising and editorial copy that exalt sexual and sensual imagery.

The Calvin Klein underwear campaigns boosted sales and suddenly everybody joined the bandwagon. People treated well-made underwear as a status symbol.

With clothing brands launching their own underpants and shirts, major brands investing heavily in advertising and hiring top models, and imitation labels sold in flea markets, these are signs that the undergarment industry in the Philippines has become competitive.

## Successful

One of the most successful labels is Herbench, which posted 100-percent growth in year-to-date sales. "People are shifting from traditional brands to emerging brands. Previously, customers would only recognize such brands as Triumph and Avon. Now they are accepting Herbench as another option," says Vivian Yao.

The assistant brand manager for Herbench undergarments attributes the sales growth to the addition of new styles that use special fabrics, product innovations, print ads and the hype created in the Bench/Herbench fashion shows.

There are a few local brands in the market. Majority of the major players are imported brands. It is a big market but it's not easy to enter. You need to have the right product, right technology and right price," she says.

The designs for Herbench undies are primarily based on the Filipina form. Filipinas are built differently from their Caucasian counterparts. Also, Herbench garments are designed for functionality."

When Yao first joined Suyen Corp. 18 months ago, the line offered about seven styles of cotton pants and undershirts.

Seeing the potential of the brand, she set out to upgrade the line, add more styles to suit the con-

sumer's needs and introduce brasieres. Suyen Corp. forged a partnership with suppliers in China and Hong Kong to make the undergarments since high-tech fabrics such as lycra, tactel and modal are not readily available. Imported materials and fabric import taxes can also be prohibitive.

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# VIRTUAL FRIENDS

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Faves: Baked Beans, riding off to the sunset.

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Faves: Rare fashion, mall dancing, sports.

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**GI be**





PHILIPPINE Hairdressing Awards Young Artist of the Year Renante Cobcobo, Commercial Style winner Victor Ortega, Philippine Hairdresser of the Year and Avant-Garde winner Nikki Bacay and Men's Style winner Nelson Cruz with lawyer Cora del Rosario, president and general manager of Top Style Marketing

## Kuala Lumpur hosts hairdressers' competition

WINNERS of Schwarzkopf's Philippine Hairdressing Awards will compete in the prestigious Asia Hairdressing Awards in Kuala Lumpur. The award ceremony will be held at the grand ballroom of the Kuala Lumpur Shangri-La Hotel on Aug. 7. Contestants come from seven countries.

The Philippine group consists of Philippine Hairdresser of the Year and Avant-Garde winner Nikki Bacay of Piandre Salon, Men's Style winner Nelson P. Cruz of Nelson P. Cruz Salon, Commercial Style winner Victor Ortega of Emphasis Salon and Young Artist winner Renante Cobcobo of Ocean Salon. They will be accompanied by lawyer Cora del Rosario, president and general manager of Top Style Marketing Inc., the exclusive distributor of Schwarzkopf products in the Philippines, and Jim Cortez, sales manager of Top Style.

Other competitors are from Hong Kong, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand and Taiwan.



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NEEDING to ease the pressures from both work and home, you need not get out of the country to rejuvenate yourself. An hour or two in a spa can probably do the trick just as well at less the cost.

To ensure that you get the real spa experience, go to the one that started it all—The Spa, which has now incorporated the exclusive Phyto Marine Cosmetics line into their treatments. Phyto Marine Cosmetics suit every unique individual lifestyle, needs and desires. They are available exclusively at The Spa Alabang Town Center, The Spa Acropolis, The Spa Fitness Center Jupiter.

Call 634-2667



EDWIN Ngo (second from left), president of 128 Dream Fountain (exclusive distributor of Cole Haan), Lance Tanaka, vice president for international development, and Andrew Chan, Asian regional manager, exchange "business news" with Sen. Edgardo Angara.

## Shoe store opens at Powerplant

COLE Haan, the premier casual American luxury brand for men and women's footwear and accessories, inaugurated recently its first free-standing boutique at G/F Powerplant Mall, Rockwell Center, Makati.

Among the first in the world to sport the Palm Springs design prescribed by the mother company in the United States, the store offers new styles for the brand's City, Country, Studio, Resort and Home collections.

In addition to men's and women's dress and casual footwear, men's belts and hosiery, women's handbags and a full range of personal leather goods, the Cole Haan Manila store will carry Cole Haan Air, which merges the handcrafted look and Nike Air technology in one unique footwear.

# Epochal return to nature

BY HARRIET ANN DY

**H**ISTORY does repeat itself. At least, in the multibillion-dollar beauty business. After all, is there a better source of information on uncomplicated and effective beauty ingredients than history? Cleopatra bathed in milk in an effort to stay forever young; and Polynesians have kept their hair shiny with bulb extracts from the tongue-twisting Ava Puhi Moni plant. Ironic as it may sound, some of the world's latest hair and skin products take their cue from some of the world's oldest and indigenous ingredients.

"There is definitely a return to basics," says Reena Villaluna, marketing and communications manager of Nu Skin Phils., over a lunch launching of their Epoch botanical line. "People want preventive and hardworking products that will provide additional benefits."

The Epoch (which is taken from the word "epic" or "moment in time") line is Nu Skin's response to this growing trend. Launched in 1999, the Utah-based multilevel marketing com-

pany worked closely with some of the world's leading ethnobotanists, people who study the way native cultures use plants, and dermatologists to create what they call as an "ethnobotanical line."

The Nu Skin website defines this as products that contain exotic (yet renewable) plant ingredients that create a nourishing environment for the skin and hair. Formulas are based on the sacred knowledge of traditional healers and mixed with top scientific ingredients.

Aside from the Ava Puhi Moni Shampoo and Light Conditioner, there is the Epoch Ava Puhi Moni Conditioner, which is made from the plant's flower. There is also the Firewalker Moisturizing Foot Cream with the Hawaiian Ti extract, a traditional plant used by the Polynesian firewalkers to absorb heat, cool and soothe the skin.

The launch of the Epoch line affirms Nu Skin Phils.' faith in the local market despite the bad economy, company officials say. According to Benjie Mercado, general manager of Nu Skin Phils., except for the last quarter of 2000, Nu Skin's local business has improved by 25 percent between 1999

and 2000. Their distributor base has also grown steadily since their entry to the market in 1997.

While other companies have turned to promotional gimmicks to entice a stagnant market to buy their products, Nu Skin has steadfastly relied on product integrity to push their premium-priced products.

"People want better deals these days," says Mercado. "And since our objective is to strengthen our company's name in premium skin care, we educated our customers by emphasizing on product features and benefits so they will find value in our products."

Throw in a philanthropic touch as well. For every purchase of an Epoch product, Nu Skin will donate a certain percentage to the Force for Good campaign. This program was created to ensure the environments, languages, lifestyles and traditions of the indigenous people around the world will be preserved through time. For inquiries, please call the Nu Skin distributor hotline at 689-0333.

E-mail the author at chinachix@hotmail.com

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# The divine Diana Vreeland

**DV**  
By Diana Vreeland  
Edited by George Plimpton  
Da Capo Press  
196 pages

By CHERISH GARCIA-HERNANDEZ

THE LATE Diana Vreeland was the ultimate purveyor of style for the 20th century.

She single-handedly revolutionized *Vogue* with her "give them what they never knew they wanted" philosophy. She was responsible later for dozens of exhibits at the Metropolitan Museum's Costume Institute.

**REVIEW**

Vreeland was eccentric, to say the least, as her autobiography "DV" clearly shows. Published in 1984 and reissued in 1997, "DV" is the bible of anyone remotely into fashion. It gives a glimpse of the world of a woman everyone referred to as "the high priestess of style" and is filled with her trademark aphorisms.

"I can't imagine being bored with red—it would be like becoming bored with the person you love... the best red is to copy the color of a child's cap in any Renaissance portrait," she said. Think of the 1957 Audrey Hepburn movie "Funny Face." Kay Thompson's "think pink!" character was a caricature of Diana Vreeland.

"DV" is unlike any other autobiography. It jumps from one continent to another, from one event to the next. It does not bore with facts but mesmerizes with glories. Stories about kings and queens, marvelous jewels, amazing places, almost like Sheherezade's tales. Filled with adjectives like divine and fabulous, the book gives the impression that nothing ugly ever touched this woman's life.

**Been there**

She gives new meaning to the words "been there, done that." She claimed to have seen the Duke of Windsor's bathroom and to have been there the night Aly Khan met Rita Hayworth. She personally knew Coco Chanel, and she met Diaghilev, Nijinsky and Josephine Baker ("her eyes were the softest brown velvet...").

'In my end is my beginning,' the fashion and lifestyle editor said before she died. How prophetic

She hinted that she was responsible for popularizing the thong sandal as fashionable footwear as well as the quick-drying nail polish that made Revlon. Fact or fiction, she was asked. Her answer? "Fiction." She admitted, "I exaggerate always. And, of course, I'm terrible on facts. But a good story... some of the details... are in the imagination. I don't call this lying."

Her vivid imagination is part of the allure of her autobiography. Her nonchalance in talking about her privileged life makes "DV" read like "Eloise" for adults. It is to be read during bedtime and over and over again until the pages fall out. Vreeland was an original, a marvelous woman. She had the gumption to develop her own taste and style and stand by them no matter what. Her Why Don't You column was a popular sounding board for some of her absurd ideas. "Why don't you wash your child's hair in champagne?" she mused. She was the enfant terrible of magazine editing. She was known to demand the most impossible things, like the perfect shade of "billiard table green"—she rejected every shade shown to her, even a photograph of an actual

by Diana Vreeland  
New foreword by Mary Lesline Wilson



billiard table.

**Like a friend**

Reading "DV" is like visiting your most exciting friend and listening to her intimate ruminations, such as her remarks on people like Cole Porter and Jackie Kennedy. The whole book is like an alternate history of Western civilization in the 20th century. She lived, after all, through two world wars, the prohibition, the stock market crash of '29 and through the '50s, '60s and '70s. (She died in 1989.)

She had the best way of describing the aura of a place at a specific time. For instance, she wrote that in Antibes, right after the war, everyone was singing "La Vie en Rose" till the wee hours of the morning. Imagine postwar France and voices echoing through cobblestoned streets. Wow!

What the book lacks, though, are pictures. Though her words are colorful enough to fill your mind's eye, the page of paltry, grainy black-and-white photographs offered is not enough. By the end of the book, you simply want to see every detail of what made this woman who she was, any insight into her fascinating mind. To this day there is no one quite like her, which may be why true individual style seems to be dying. She suggested that part of the reason she was fired from *Vogue* was because the magazine wanted to be more commercial.

But Vreeland has left her mark. She will not be forgotten just yet. "DV" may sound like the ranting of a deluded old woman on the surface, but if you let the book sink in, you will discover the amazing depth behind her candor. "In my end is my beginning," said the fashion doyenne of the last century. Nothing could be truer.

E-mail the author at cherishg@yahoo.com

## Hanging on to freshness

SMELL good, feel good with a spritz of Hang Ten body spray for free with every minimum single purchase of Hang Ten merchandise worth P500 until Aug. 15.

Hang Ten Philippines' Body Spray Promo offers two fresh fragrances to choose from. Wipe-Out, a truly knockout scent for discerning young men, and Kook, a unisex scent that definitely makes heads turn.

"In making the right impression and, consequently, gaining the confidence, in dealing with people, it is not just necessary to look good, you also have to smell good," Hang Ten says in a statement.

Hang Ten is a place to go for stylish yet reasonably priced casual getups. Consistent to its "Colorful People" theme, the clothing shop recently introduced in the Philippine market over 15 new designs to choose from, denims, twills or poplins that create a youthful look.

Trendy Hang Ten clothes are available at 31 stores in Metro Manila, Batangas, Cabanatuan, Cebu (SM and Ayala Center), SM Iloilo, SM Pampanga, Gaisano Davao and Robinsons Novaliches with designs that lead every fashion-conscious' top picks.

## FDAP marks 20 years in fashion

THE FASHION Designers Association of the Philippines (FDAP), with Hotel de Intramuros, presents "Milestones: Weddings, Debuts and Legendary Parties," to mark its 20th anniversary.

The fair will be held 10 a.m.-8 p.m., July 27-29, at Hotel de Intramuros, Plaza San Luis Complex, General Luna Street, Intramuros.

Newly elected FDAP officers, headed by new president Lito Perez, will be inducted on July 27. A fashion show will feature formal wear. A bridal fashion show will be held at 5 p.m., July 29, and a dialogue with special guest hair and makeup artist Fanny Serrano, a FDAP member.

The "Milestones" bridal show will feature the designs of Johnny Abad, John Abul, Milo Afable, Ariel Agasang, Ronaldo Arnaldo, Tony Cajicom, Rhee Chua, Ivan de la Cruz, Babang del Mundo, Rem Divino, Edna Encarnacion, John Espeleta, Ramon Estebe, Gino Fernando, Bong Garcia, Gener Gozum, Ivy Lao, Edgar Madamba, Dennis Martin, Jonie Martinez, Ole Morabe, Vivo Nazareth, Marisoc Nueno, Roland Lirio, Glenn Lopez, Richard Papa, Lito Perez, Bumbee Ramos, Adrian Rios, J. Royo, Rholand Roxas, Edgar San Diego, Fanny Serrano and Ernie Uy.

Call FDAP at telexfax 725-0819.

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At the Mt. Malarayat Golf and Country Club, Lipa City, Batangas on July 21, 2001.



Let's make things better



**PHILIPS**

# On men who think they're God's greatest gift to women

BY JOSE JAVIER REYES

**S**HE furiously sent me text messages the moment she heard the marriage rumors. Then this friend of mine actually wept when she confirmed that Ariel Aquino Muhlach (a.k.a. Aga) was indeed going to marry Charlene Gonzales. All throughout that two-hour television coverage of the Baguio wedding, this girl consumed half a box of Kleenex and perhaps seriously contemplated the most convenient, most painless and least messy form of suicide.

But I did not have the courage to tell this friend that, well, her chances of sweeping the heart of any matinee idol were close to nil. Okay, she was treading on the dangerous waters of being in her mid-30s and every morning she could hear her biological clock going tick-tick like a time bomb. She did not possess most of the qualities that qualify her to be among the 50 or so contestants of Binibining Pilipinas. Her most apparent attributes fall under the category of inner beauty rather than generic head turner.

## Scoreless

In other words, like so many of the womenfolk, my friend's wit, intelligence, charm and expertise in everything from Italian cooking to herbal medicine do not score obvious points for purposes of marketability in the singles arena. She took pride in her 36-inch boobs, but it did not help that she also had the same number of inches for her waistline. So how could I have told her that given her present reincarnation, she should be less discriminating and demanding in her hunt for a lifelong partner?

But as she said, "I can only love someone who deserves the quality of loving I can give. And at the rate it's going... all the remaining available men are nice, intelligent but have the sex appeal of craft paper or worse, they are taken or full-fledged, dedicated and practicing homosexuals. Or they are gorgeous, sexy and have brains smaller than their scrotum." Then she wailed and talked about the worst kind—the males who are intelligent, sexy, gorgeous but far from anything but nice. The peacocks who believe they are God's gift to women.

At this point, we indulged in an animated conversation about this wonderful mutation of nature and dismal social behavior. We decided to draw a short list of men who qualified in this subspecies, adding and slashing out names, punctuating each entry with evil anecdotes (whether true or rumored) or double up laughing with such bitterness. Then my friend and I realized there was a certain pattern exhibited by these men, something worthy of a scholarly dissertation for wannabe experts of the behavioral sciences. We did not even dare venture whether this was unique to the race once governed by Erap. We figured out the phenomenon was universal.

Considering the irony of demographics in which eligible women outnumber available men, the spawning of the 21st century Narcissus cannot be helped. Besides, this could be the genetic revenge of the men considering how human history revealed an eternity of events showing the downfall of men because of the foibles of females. Added to this, women somehow distorted the pattern of natural selection with all their whims and quirks, thereby turning the mating game into an obstacle course for the interested and enthusiastic gents. Ah, but now the tables may have been turned. Let the women yearn and froth in the mouth for these exceptional men who come as scarce as high school students still capable of multiplication without the aid of a calculator.

## Common denominators

There were common denominators we cited about these male peacocks. One thing was most apparent. They were all not only good looking, but they also possess faces and physiques that could melt panty liners in seconds. But what was more important, the peacocks knew their mere presence could have this sort of effect on female underwear and protection.

Yet good looks were not enough. They also owned enough impressive gray matter in their perfectly shaped skulls. They were capable of talking about politics, art, the state of the environment, information technology, cross-stitching... they possessed wit, charm, a terrific sense of humor. In other words, five minutes with this fellow and you want to be the mother of his children. Ten minutes with this man and you want to spend all of eternity with him. Fifteen minutes with this gent and all your equilibrium, fine manners and sense of logic fizzles out and a lady turns into Adele Hugo.

At this point my friend shook her head and raised a very important issue. Because of the possession (or acquisition) of such outstanding qualities, these gifts of the Lord to discriminating women also have an intense aversion to commitment. This is because they know what they are worth, they know how many women have mental and emotional convulsions at their mere presence, they know they have the same effect as gamma rays retarding certain flowering plants. And they are proud of it.

Tear-eyed, my friend gave an account of how a peacock played with her emotions by making her believe he was actually interested in her. He would go out of his way to be with her, indulge in mentally stimulating conversations and even made plans for them to do things together. All throughout this process, he never gave the slightest hint of anything more than just being together. But my friend's fertile imagination and capability for miscalculation sent all the wrong signals to her nervous system and definitely distorted her overall perception of life. She actually believed he wanted something more from her than what he was already getting.

## Cold turkey

It was not surprising when he suddenly stopped calling or seeing her, my friend about her favorite poems of Edna St. Vincent Millay and spending hours listening to Barbara Streisand's "Some Good Things Never Last." Eventually, she found out why. Her ex-never-lover was seeing another woman, someone younger, fresher and whose range of knowledge spanned the gamut from A to B.

The revelation shocked my friend and scared her self-image. She realized her MBA courses and interest in Chinese antiques did not really score points in the larger scheme of things. The Peacock opted for a Bumbo whose verbal skills resembled that of text messaging. "And he did not even make any attempt to do anything physical with me!" my friend cried. "I'd like to think that... what we had was something of a higher level... it was intense Platonic. This other girl... I am sure it's purely physical."

I smiled and thought, wouldn't she have preferred a little less Plato and a lot more Ibibio? After all, if you lived for intellectual kicks, then go read all the volumes of Encyclopedia Britannica or have an affair with a full professor from UP.

We tried to rationalize this sort of behavior and so arrived at some very hasty conclusions. Peacocks boast an abnormal degree of confidence because of the ease with which they can acquire women. I volunteered that the same sort of practice was found in show biz because girls would literally throw themselves at the feet of all these gorgeous hunks without so much preliminary rituals as finding out if they

finished grade school or if their sanitary habits included brushing their teeth.

Then we went into this really animated discussion of how Peacocks love to reaffirm their worth by collecting as many blinded, mind-boggled women who would give in even before they were taken. There is this mental scoreboard installed in the brains of these men, adding macho points after every conquest, regardless of who was conquered. They will go get a girl if only to prove they can get any girl—or simply to fulfill an immediate biological need. And they are convinced that somehow they are doing the women a favor. Peacocks believe their spermatozoa should be preserved and immortalized at the Smithsonian Institute.

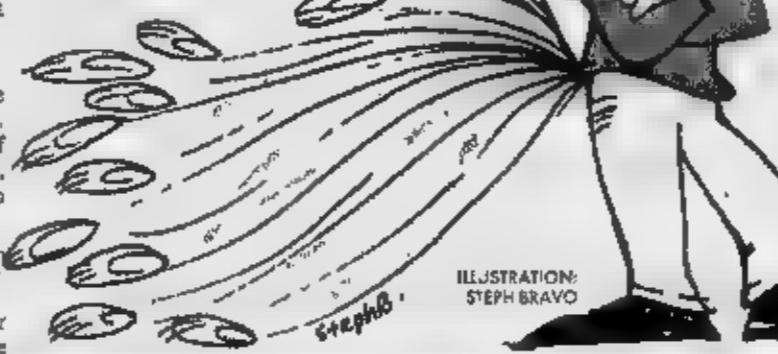
## Victimizer

So why are they afraid of commitments? For one thing, they do not want to limit their playing field. Or perhaps they are afraid of being found out? If they are truly convinced about how great they are, then why should they make a career of trying to prove how good they can be?

My friend was quiet for a moment, and then argued. "But what about the feelings of all the girls they victimize? All the girls they lead on, all the girls they hurt?"

Do they really care about them? Despite all their claims of superior intellect, these peacocks put the

They're known as  
peacock gents—  
dashing, debonair,  
smart and  
ruthless



center of their existence about 7 inches below their belt line. These men actually enjoy looking at themselves on motel mirrors while they perform their obnoxious ministrations on the obliging ladies. These men have become the true experts at social masturbation. Their victims have been diminished to nothing more than those life-size inflatable dolls you buy in kinky adult stores or through certain sites in the World Wide Web.

But then again, the peacocks could have only mastered their practice if (and only if) there were women who would easily succumb to good looks and great brains all in one package. As long as there are ladies (like my friend) who push the cute attributes of a post-pubescent crush into a full-adult obsession, then the Lotharios will never run out of victims. It is safer to have an extended crush on the unattainable like Aga, Richard, Troy, Diether, Piolo or Jencho. Stretch this a bit further by including Josh Hartnett, Ryan Phillippe, Ricky Martin, Russell Crowe or any of the members of the saccharine boy bands. These gentlemen will always remain as concepts for the ordinary mortals who will forever swoon but shall never touch them.

The moment you start coveting with peacocks in the flesh, then be ready to draw some blood. Your own blood, that is.

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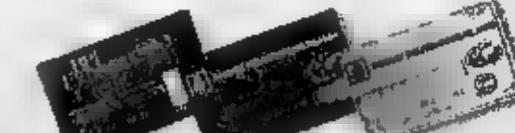
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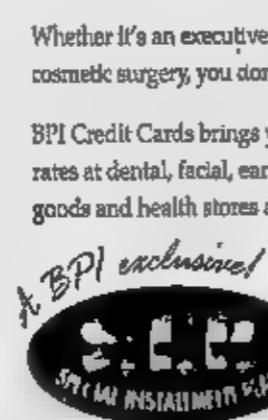
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TO RICA PEÑA, OSA



#### HIGH TEA BY THE SEA.

She's in a black kimono by Due worn over a nylon spandex push-up bra and cotton rib boxer shorts and a shawl by Bazaar. Mules and bag by Louis Vuitton. Her friend wears a spaghetti-strapped blouse over cotton

minaudiere panties. She's short in red cut leather es by Nine West.

## Pinoy undies undo the competition

(From page C1)

"In every production batch, we look out for a sample group to try them. This group will give feedback in terms of fit, fabric and durability. This is to assure the quality of the product," says Yao. A quality assurance team travels to the factories to oversee the manufacturing.

Since fashion has been body-conscious, Herbench introduced sexy styles such as the G-string, the tanga and the push-up bra.

#### Broadened market

Herbench originally targeted the young, middle-class market. But with styles designed to follow the shape of the feminine contours in accordance with naturalism, the market has broadened. Foreign underwear starts at P250 and goes up to thousands. Herbench is priced from P190 to P250; its bras range from P189 to P298. Herbench also provides sets for customers who want a uniform top and bottom. The sizes can fit from a 21-inch waistline to 34. The classic high-cut briefs are a bestseller, along with the printed panties favored by teens.

Yao says the seamless underwear feels as if you're wearing nothing at all.

All the brassieres are made abroad. The push-up bra has an internia mold that gives a fuller shape.

Because of its success in branding, Herbench underwear has been knocked off. Although imitation is a form of flattery, no respectable brand would want its product sold in the flea market.

Yao says the fake Bench and Herbench undergarments are rumored to have been made in China. The quality of the fabric is inferior to the real thing. The waist garter is not elastic enough, and it leaves a garter line after wear. It can only last for three washings.

"We are protective of our name, as any legitimate corporation is. When we found out about the fake Bench and Herbench undergarments being sold in the market, we instantly launched an anti-fake campaign. We've also advised our clients to buy Bench products only from official Bench and Herbench boutiques and licensed concessionaires."

In our culture, female sexuality has always been faced with moral restrictions, which have been reflected in the changing fashions of underwear. For this pictorial, Wahoo Guerrero interprets how women's lingerie conveys how our moral codes are linked with sexuality.



**FLOWER POWER** Corsages by Gigi de Jonghe

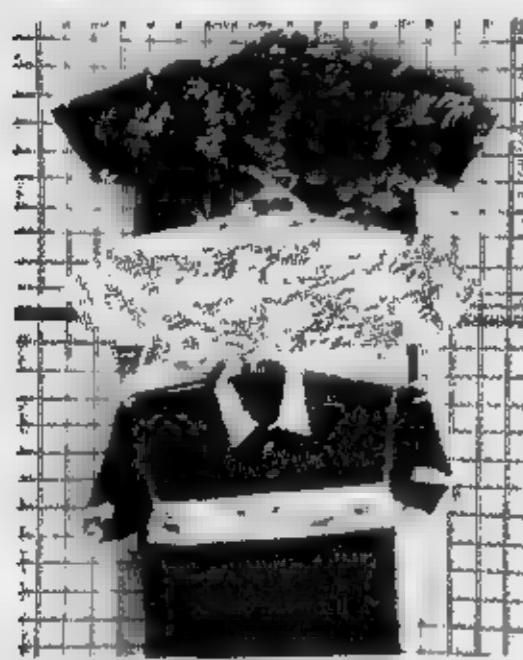


**UNDERWEAR AS OUTERWEAR.** She mixes her Herbench lycra tank top and orange wrap skirt and fuchsia shantung ball skirt, corsage by Gigi de Jonghe. Purple shoes by Nine West.



**MAKE a Playboy bunny out of this spaghetti-strapped cotton tank top and high-cut nylon spandex panties with black leather gloves and a corsage. Go butch in this T-shirt underwear seamless bra and black pants by Christian Lacroix's Bazaar Match it with the Louis Vuitton Alma Long mini monogram bag. Black dulce mule shoes by Nine West.**

**WEAR sheer ponchos over cotton miniskirts and non-wired bras. Mules by Louis Vuitton**



**TROPICAL COOL.** (From top) Black short-sleeved polo with floral print (P399), short-sleeved shirt with Island Paradise theme print (P399), sport shirt with fish print contrast in collar and sleeves (P229)

## New fashion line for teens

**DUCKS**  
Unlimited, the sports-oriented total fashion house, has come up with a new line for teens and yuppies. The new line comes in bright colors, smart tees, trendy and cool pants, both long and short. Modeled by Mark and Aumar, the new line is made of 100-percent Egyptian cotton. Call 522-9790.



UNION JACK is a popular fashion icon.

## High tee

THE TEE gets a streetwise, glam rock edge with graffiti and flag prints. A sprinkling of beadwork and pop art influences make these hot fashion items. Fun, funky and free-spirited, these tees with attitude are available at the Girls Teens Wear department of all SM stores.



WHAT the world needs now is love, says this black graffiti tube.

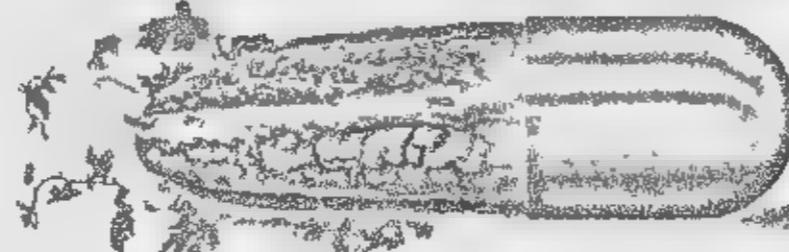
## Sale offers up to 70% discount

J18 Youngwear holds a super sale this month, giving up to 70-percent discounts in all their stores. On sale are Lycra stretch tank tops and tees, dresses and bags for girls and knit shirts, jeanswear and sneakers for boys.

J18 has produced a whole new line especially for the sale. At the same time, it has come up with a whole set of denim bags and its own brand of eyewear.

J18 stores are located at G/F Glorietta 2, Makati; 3/L SM Megamall B, UG/F Annex Building, SM City North Edsa, UG/F East Wing, SM Southmall Las Piñas; Landmark and Robinsons Cebu, Galleria, Imus and

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## DON'T BE A JOKE FOREVER!

Arabohok. Pepito.

Have you ever been called one of these hurtful taunts? Leave it to the Pinoy to come up with funny jeers. These nicknames, though often said in jest, are anything but funny. Losing one's hair is never funny.

If you're 25 and up, male, exposed to stress, harsh chemicals and unbalanced diet, you are bound to lose hair. Anyone of these can trigger falling hair, which if not immediately arrested, can lead to irreversible baldness. Many so-called remedies have come out in the market claiming wonders and magic to bring back your hair. Unfortunately, most of them just don't work. Some can even cause harmful side effects.

Good thing there are scientifically-tested and highly-effective hair growth formula like Minoxidil Regroe. Regroe is a result of years of study in the U.S. and is one of the few medications that has proven efficacy. 80% of users have grown their hair back in 6 months. Some start to grow their hair back in as early as two months. For some, falling hair stops at the first month of use. At two months, new hair starts to grow. At 6 months, all lost hair will have been recovered.

Arabohok? AGA naigas? Don't be a joke forever. Do something about your hair loss before it's too late - call the Regroe Hotline at 817-3303.

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER  
LIFESTYLE

C FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2001



## Fashion victims of extreme eccentricities

IN THE FRENCH version of the English sitcom "Absolutely Fabulous," starring film actress Nathalie Baye and actress-film director Josianne Balasko, and directed by Gabriel Aghion, the characters are transformed into their personalities via costume à la chic Parisian.

Both female characters are fashion victims of extreme eccentricities. Patsy the alcoholic is played by Baye. Patsy is an extremely wealthy and bored impulsive shopper who

buys Gucci and Prada by the dozen. "For the first time in my professional life I underwent a strict diet not only for the role, but to fit into the clothes as well," she says.

For Balasko, who plays the attention-getter, overweight yet super chic Eddie, the role provided her a breath of fresh air and humor. "Although I made Jean-Paul (Gaultier) suffer, I at least gave him an idea on how to conquer an entirely new market—that of big women!"

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D

# LIFESTYLE

## Speaking up for the size 8-and-up

If you're size 8 or up, this is for you. You can "stomach-out" now, exhale, and let the buttons pop where they may.

We can't turn around the economy and sorry politics just yet, but perhaps fashion retailers and merchandisers can energize their sales a bit if they look beyond the Gwyneth Paltrows of the world to see us women. Remember us? Those with folds in our middle or cellulite in our arms.

From the late '80s to this day, fashion has exulted the aerobized—or now, the taeboed—body. Fitness became the ultimate measure of beauty and style—arms well-sculpted, abs flat as a board, thighs and legs lean and taut as stretched rubber. The voluptuous Marilyn Monroes went with the '50s; and the loose and anything-goes anti-establishment frocks of the '60s, which hid the bulges, resurfaced only briefly as grunge.

And beauty and style became synonymous with youth. Teen-to-20s youth. A model approaching her 30s is a has-been and must try all tricks in the book to reinvent herself. (Linda Evangelista could do only so much.) Fashion brands were locked up in that market, as if the late 30- or 40-somethings had been shipped on the Titanic with the un-dieted Kate Winslet.

The ingenue look became the obsessive spit of virtually all beauty and fashion products. If extra-terrestrials dug up the earth 2,000 years from now, they'd see a planetful of antiquing and firming cream bottles. To look young and younger became a global obsession (no thanks to the fashion pages and style glossies, one of which yours truly edits).

In short, in the past years, fashion has been spaghetti-strapped to death. From day to evening wear, it's spaghetti straps—the all-around symbol of juvenile body. Even wedding gowns are spaghetti-strapped (and some *hinalas* actually dare to spaghetti-strap their orange-peel arms).

### Lack of imagination

Retail out there has ceased to be imaginative or versatile—you see one store (spaghetti straps), you've seen the others. No, wait, to be fair, there are: Halters, bare-backs, T-shirts (baby tees, free-size, etc.), tank tops, denims, jeans, hankly-hemmed skirts, hankly blouses, stretch separates, polos, among similar others. (The world of stretch fabrics is no help either.) Same difference, as they say. The uniformity is boring. It's as if it's addressing only one market—the size 6 and below.

I struck upon this insight when a retailer friend realized her merchandise moved briskly when she put out designs meant for the size 8 and above. Rea, fashion for real women.

These are the women not keen on baring their shoulder lines or arms, cinching their waists, or baring their midriff. They don't want anything to hug their hips either, or outline their thighs.

Men—most men—are content not to discover fashions, the dating market is skewed in their favor (remember the ratio). In contrast, women want to look good—for themselves, for other women, for their man, for their bitchy gay friends. But while they want to be stylish, they have insecurities about their bodies.

So when are you designing a ramp collection just for us real weight-challenged women, I ask my friend Augie Cordero when we have nothing else to talk about.

No such thing, he tells me. "Fashion or style is aspirational. Women still love fantasy and romance. When they see the models on the ramp, or in *Vogue*, women aspire to look like those." Right, Augie, and style editors like me are in the business of selling dreams.

So when I really want to irritate him, I goad Augie to make me his Audrey Hepburn dresses—Audrey, as everyone knows, being synonymous to Augie Cordero in local fashions.

"Hanggang Elizabeth Taylor ka na lang, pang-caftan," he swats my thought. True friend can't even tell true lies, I tell you.

### Not for the masses

I get Augie's point—he's in haute couture. It's his craft to make a design statement—not for a

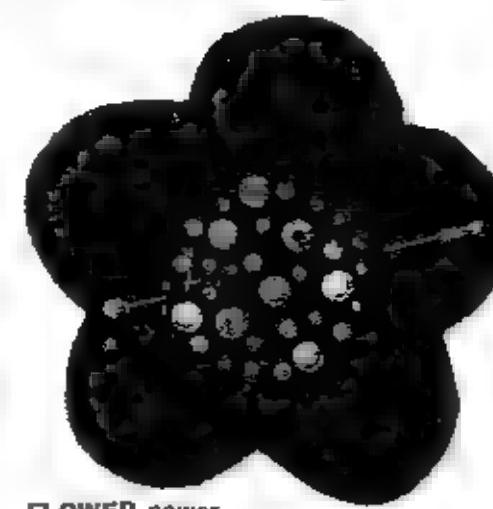
### LIFE-STYLED

Thelma Sioson  
San Juan



mass market, but for his select clientele and concept of style. Designers like him are supposed to push fashion to greater heights, and that means not even accommodating the cellulite of true friends. In truth, to be fashionable you start not really with your wallet, but with your figure. If you want to be fashion-forward, you work on your

SPEAKING/p.D3



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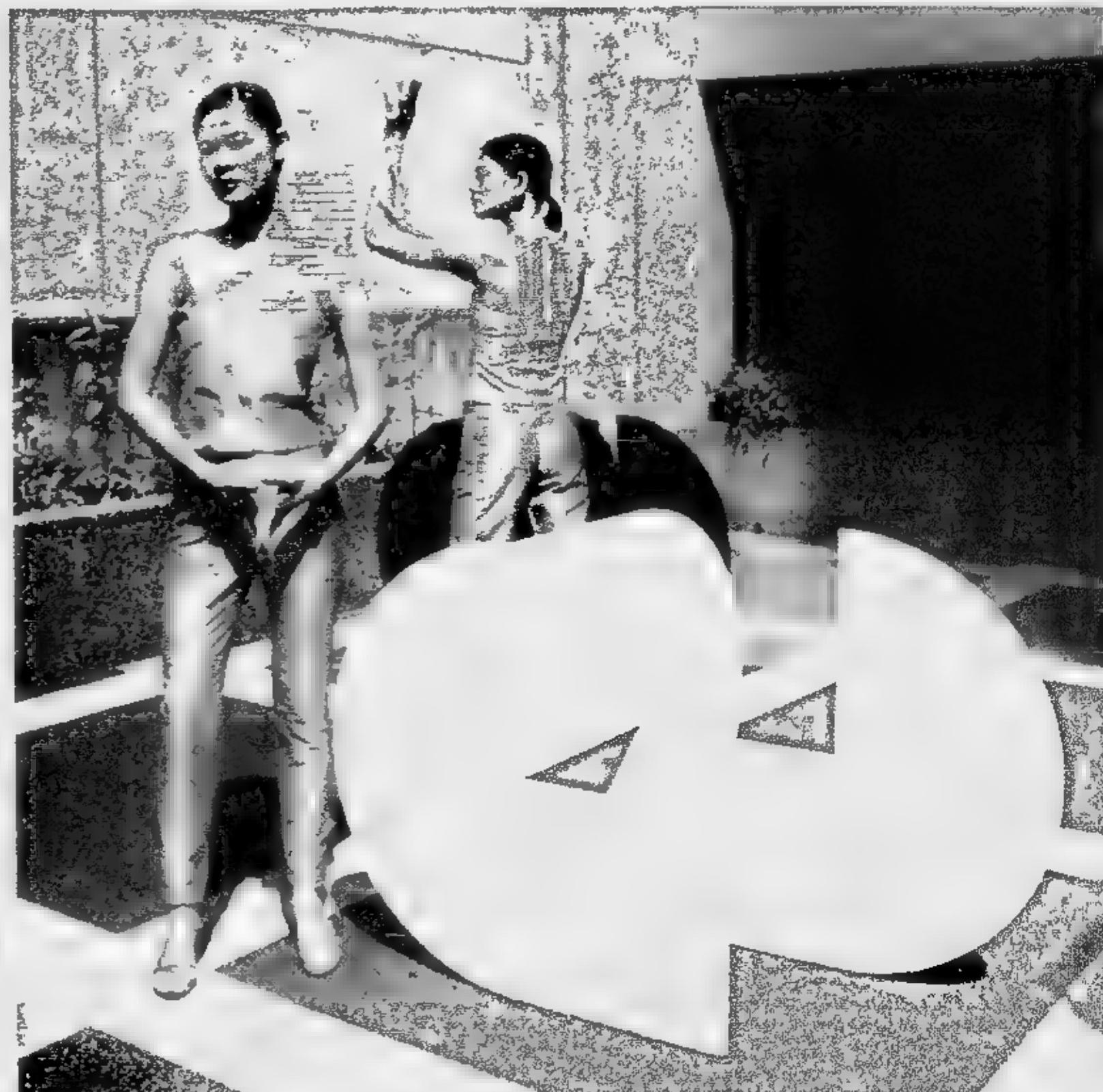


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SPECIAL THANKS TO ANNIE SAINTHOU



EAZEL wears a silk georgette, spaghetti-strapped cocktail dress with sequins. Joan is clad in a chocolate asymmetrical blouse with Swarovski stones and a sequined skirt.



THE GEOMETRY of the two-toned silk dupioni outfit complement the abstract installations by National Artist Arturo Luz. Semi-precious stones cascade from the nape down to the back of Eazel.

## Moonshine over eveningwear

BY MARGE C. ENRIQUEZ  
PHOTOS BY CHITO VECINA  
PICTORIAL DIRECTION BY ALBERT AVELLANA

**T**HE SPOTLIGHT is finally on the designer behind Rustan's eveningwear, Luna. For so long, consumers have been wondering about the identity of the person behind one of the store's popular labels. From a marketing viewpoint, the store saw the salability of associating a brand with a name. To customers, a person and her qualities breathe life into a piece of garment.

On July 26, Rustan's is relaunching Luna by Pia Regala-Hebron at the Shangri-La Makati.

Rustan's labels have their own identities. Criselda carries the trademark big flowers and ruffles. Due by Rhett Eala is fashion-forward and the sizes are smaller. Luna is known for its understated elegance.

Regala-Hebron studied art history and fine arts at the University of the Philippines. In Florence, she took up fashion design, and dabbled in such courses as costumes, fabrication, patternmaking and illustration. On her return, she applied at Rustan's in 1993.

At that time the ladies wear department was filled with consignors. There wasn't a house label that catered to the consumer's need for casual wear. Regala-Hebron's first break was designing for Caravan, a weekend wear label. Fresh from school, she had bright ideas about developing casual clothes for the young market. The line consisted of separates, rendered in different colors and prints. At that time, stirrup pants were the bestsellers aside from the perennial stretch twill and denim pants. Weekend

Rustan's  
relaunches  
Luna  
and recasts  
the spotlight  
on classic  
elegance



PIA Regala-Hebron is expecting her firstborn. In the background are makeup artist Toto Bagamesbad and the models.



THE TEXTURE of the purple chiffon dress is enriched by resham leaves, raffia embroidery and Swarovski crystals. The dress blends with the collages of Spanish painter Gonzalo Martín-Calero.

clothes and sundresses, easy-fitting clothes were popular

### Origins

Luna was born out of the ballroom dance craze. Regala-Hebron handled the merchandising. When Luna's first designer, Victoria Pimentel, chucked in her fashion design career for restaurant, Regala-Hebron changed the look. From frou-frou dresses, billowy skirts, lace and standard red, cream and black colors, she streamlined the look and used softer fabrics, such as silk chiffon and georgette. Women snapped up the spaghetti strapped dresses that grazed around the ankles and shawls.

Luna has not exactly attracted the ballroom dance crowd. Rather it has catered to women who attend weddings, cocktails and proms. There are short formals for daytime weddings and baptisms. The store does special orders for clients like making clothes of the same style in different sizes for secondary sponsors.

Regala-Hebron makes a collection based on the available fabrics. She transforms fabrics for daytime such as linen into a dressier affair with a few embellishments. She favors silk dupioni for

special occasions, Thai silk and rich colors.

Customers appreciate Luna because the clothes are investment pieces that can stay in their wardrobe year after year. Some of the clothes can be matched with an evening wrap.

Rustan's has exclusive suppliers that make the clothes. Some specialize in beadwork and embroidery. Because the label has different suppliers, quality control can be quite challenging, yet Luna has always enjoyed reliability as a label.

As a designer, Regala-Hebron's challenge is to keep the clothes fresh so as to offer something new without getting too boring. "You have to reinvent something that's classic, but looks different," she says.

There's also the dilemma of sourcing fabrics. There's not enough local supply to meet the garment manufacturer's demands. Designers have to get their materials from overseas.

### Biggest challenge

For her show, her biggest challenge is drapery. "You need a body form. This is more special. It's not just cut and sew," she says. The fabrics, such as silks, silk chiffons and georgettes, are sourced from India. She uses stretch velvets and taffetas for black tie affairs.

The show will feature cocktail clothes, in green tones instead of the usual black palette, and soft party dresses. The designer will play on textures. There are lots of beaded tops and skirts. There are the classic evening colors of purple and mauve. She will embellish them with Swarovskis for special effects.

"The line should reflect my personality. I'm not trendy. The look is very feminine. I like it when a woman dresses up like a woman," she says.

Regala-Hebron also designs for Rustan's big hit, Jill. The collection is divided into casual, corporate and lounge wear. Its success owes to the fact that the clothes are manufactured overseas, sold at reasonable prices, and has sizes for all figure types.

Luna's relaunch is not the designer's only creation this year. Married to businessman Desiderio Hebron, she is having her first son, Desi IV, by year-end.



LOOK tranquil in this virgin blue chiffon, wrap dress with mint electric pleats as accent.



SM family in HK: (from left) Cesar Gaupo, Mike de la Rosa, Bong Gacho, Tonichi Nocum and Mille Dizon

## Speaking up for the size 8-and-up

(From page D1)

body first. Fashion adventure begins with slashing off those calories. It's always a trade-off.

But retail is another game altogether. There's a market out there which is neither aerobized nor Gwyneth Paltrow-young. A market that likes to think it's on its way to being an Audrey Hepburn, but is stuck in the Elizabeth Taylor limbo. And it can't stand more spaghetti straps. And don't dare get into those Issey Miyake pants either—even if you can afford it. Miyake's architectural line is not for Filipinas with short legs, short torso and big hips. You'd look like you've been cemented in a drum. (No political offense meant.)

This market is waiting to be wooed. When our Working Mom magazine had fashion spreads for the "plus-size" women, we got not just letters—we got emotional letters profuse with gratitude. "It's really very thoughtful of you," wrote one mother from Dipolog City. "It's very hard for us to find clothes that are comfortable and yet fashionable."

It was as if, for once, there was a glossy that finally discovered that "us biggie moms with mature bodies" existed.

A colleague in Inquirer (of course, you know it's not the waif-bodied Marge) agreed. "Nothing to buy out there. I want clothes that will fit me but will not make me look matrona."

Of course not. Women can be fashionable without looking "matrona," or without being stuck in the bundled-up corporate blazers or free-size T-shirts.

### Think beyond spaghetti straps

What we need is a breed of fashion merchandisers who know how to source RTW lines that are fashion forward but hide the body flaws. It's high time today's retailers or merchandisers looked beyond spaghetti straps into lines of variety—in silhouette, colors and fabrics. They only have to hone their sense of sophistication and eye for balance and proportion.

A haute couture designer notes, "Today's merchandisers are so focused on the bottom line that they have forgone to sharpen their sophisticated eye."

Today's drift in fashion shouldn't make that difficult. Trends are eclectic, the materials more so. Fabrics are invented as if by the hour, thanks to technology. The array of rayon, linen, cotton, silk blends is incredible; the technology for stretch is advancing so fast that there has to be a way to accommodate every body shape. (I thought there were only the pear and apple shapes until I read Tina Juan's column this week.)

The styles can also be figure-friendly. The blousons are back, and so are the bell, dolman or extended sleeves. Dropped waist should be a good ally. Ruffles can also be used to flatter the body, as well as bias on the skirt. (The Romantic look is the vogue, remember.) Bows on the blouses or knotted or ruff collars are also back. You don't have to be stranded in the carnivals line meant for the Kate Mosses of our species.

And don't forget the range of separates and fashion accents. If you're dying to get into a halter but don't have the trim shoulders for it, wear your halter with a shrug or a flimsy bolero; you don't have to get stuck with your shawl in this heat. If you want to wear a bandeau or a tank top but are insecure about your bodice, put on a light cardigan over it.

### Versatile shirtdress

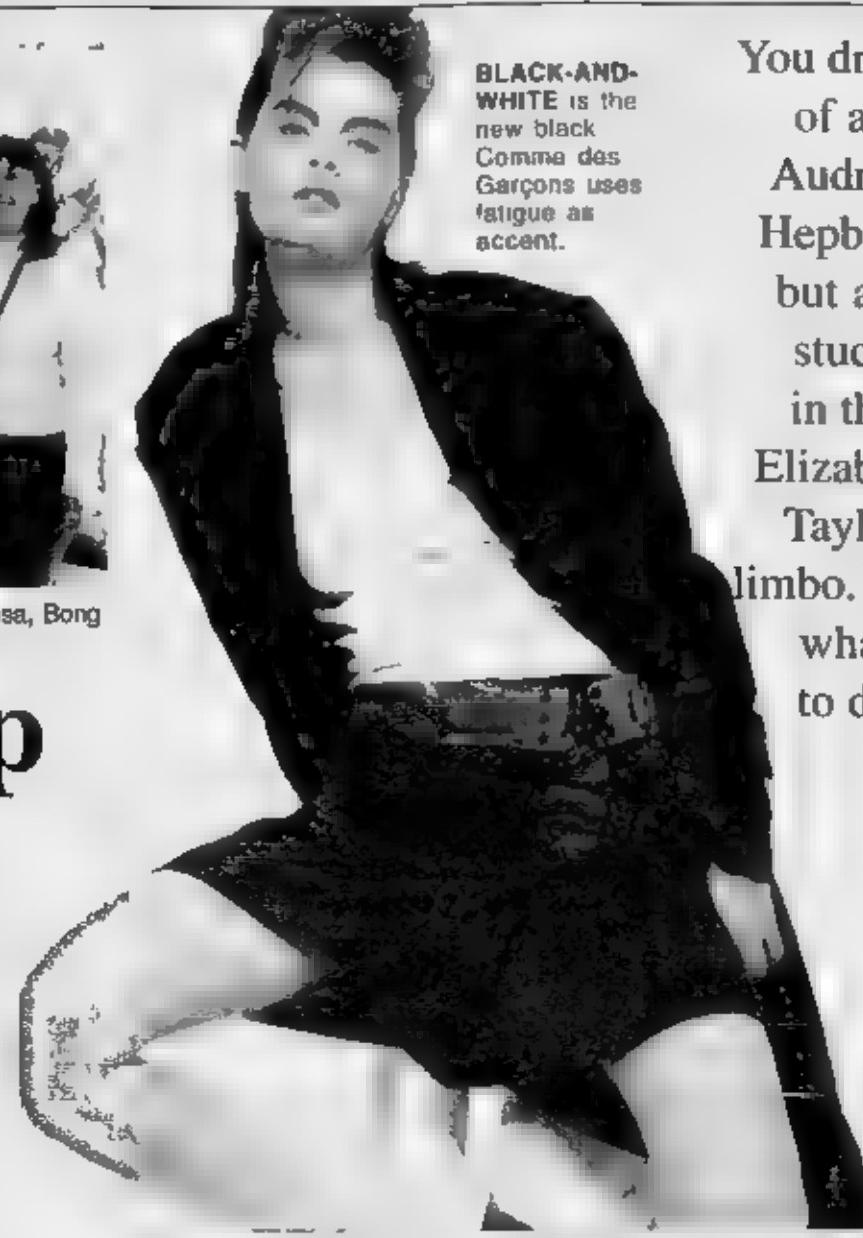
A welcome come-back for me is the shirt-dress—it doesn't interfere with my "Bill Blass" ("bilbil," where have you been?). Accent it with a belt—one that is either super-thin or with a big decorative buckle, or a chain. (Of course, you wear it loose. We're hiding something, remember.) Chain belts are back in a big way so it's time to dig up yours from the Chanel '80s.

Then, there is the shift that will never go out of vogue. If you're tired of it and want to add a twist—wear it with good tailored pants (of the same color, we want jeans height, don't forget). Thus way, when you want to wear pants, you're not limited to the corporate blazer as top.

Floral fashion remains the big thing. It comes in romantic flimsy silks and chiffons. So you don't want your healthy apparatus to show through, and feel your endowed bodice has no right to go bright colors. Well, you can, and still go see-through to boot. Just use a chemise in solid color—a shade coordinated with your floral print—so you achieve an inner-trim effect. (Sorry, we can't repackage you into a Donatella Versace just yet.)

### Use flower power

Flowers are a big accessory these days, or haven't you noticed? Tom Ford has even come up with a black orchid (in leather) necklace for his Yves Saint Laurent collection. SPEAKING/p.D4



**BLACK-AND-WHITE** is the new black. *Comme des Garçons* uses fatigue as accent.

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## Speaking up for the size 8-and-up

(From page D3)

Laurent trouser suit.  
And the Chano.  
Camelias are in every accessory shelf. Use one  
as an elegant accessory—blends well with pearls.

Color This is where the adventure lies in today's fashion. UK Vogue intelligently noted that color has lost the radicalism of the psychedelic '60s and has migrated to high fashion as a sign of luxury. Reds, blues, purples, browns in every imaginable shade. Either solid, or mixing the hues to produce a graduated palate—like "brey" which combines brown and grey.

Before there was only the Prada gray or black. Today, Helmut Lang has 12 shades—12, take note—of black just for jeans.

And never have there been so many shades of white—from oatmeal to eggshell white to creamy white. White is for today's night, for people who go sick and tired of wearing black eveningwear (Black is again back for night though.)

Black-and-white together is the new black (It's still hot in New York retail, from Gap to Calvin Klein.) That's what mostly everybody is wearing. Even if you think you're fat, go ahead, just coordinate and accessorize well. As Cesar Gaupo told me, in the end it's a matter of attitude. Confidence.

So refreshing is the resurgence of camel and tan, not just for clothes but also for bags.

Then there's fawn. Don't count this out yet. Comme des Garçons uses fatigue as accent—as bias, as hem or waist trimming—it's even mixed with polka dots sometimes for those away-from-the-body silhouettes that can really hide the bulge.

Now why am I suddenly taking up the cause of the size-8-and-up women?

You guessed it. I revisited the gym last week and discovered (as if I didn't know) that I'm 12 pounds away from my desired weight, if you ask my nutritionist; 22 pounds away, if you ask the other hardline nutritionist. So now I'm looking for the friendly nutritionist.

Moral support  
for Cesar

If you were in Hong Kong last week, you'd have thought that Filipino designers were staging a show there. They were all there—Mike de la Rosa, Jeannie Goutbourn, Tenchi Nocum, Rhett Eala, Lulu Tan Gan—to give Cesar Gaupo a good psychic boost for a few clothes he designed for Shanghai Tang, which were paraded during the Hong Kong Fashion Week for Spring/Summer. It was a small collection—in brights and some with handpainted images—but it stood out.

Present was practically Cesar's SM family with SM senior associate vice president (marketing) Mille Diaz joining them. The group ran into an old colleague Bong Guicho, who now does the display window for Shanghai Tang. Bong used to do it for SM when he was based here, and he also became known for being part of an OPM performing group.

Looks like Cesar managed the first hurdle well. The HK Fashion Week drew more than 13,000 buyers, with the organizers declaring that HK's garment industry was in step with the revolution and the demands of today's global market. Well, our fashion industry missed the boat again.

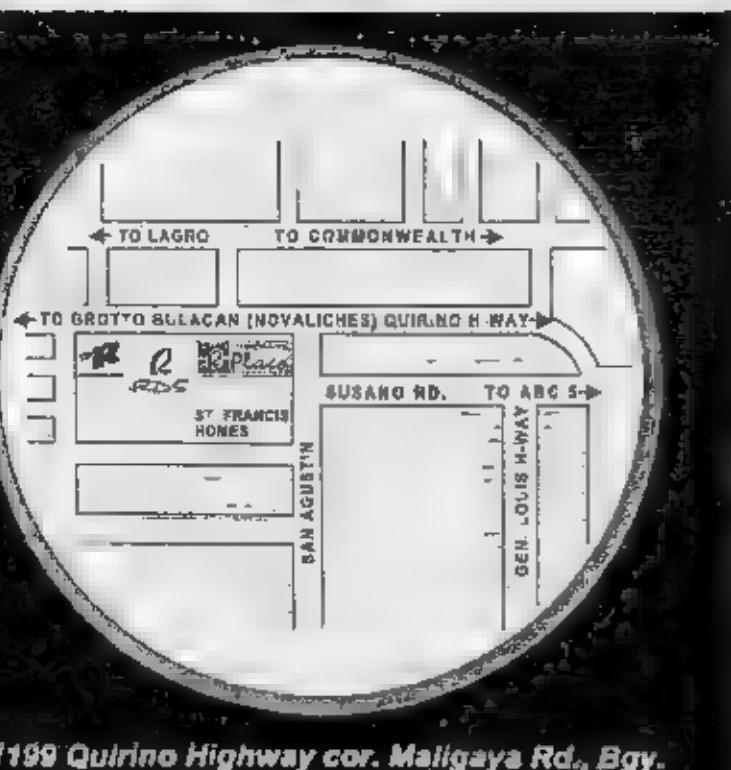
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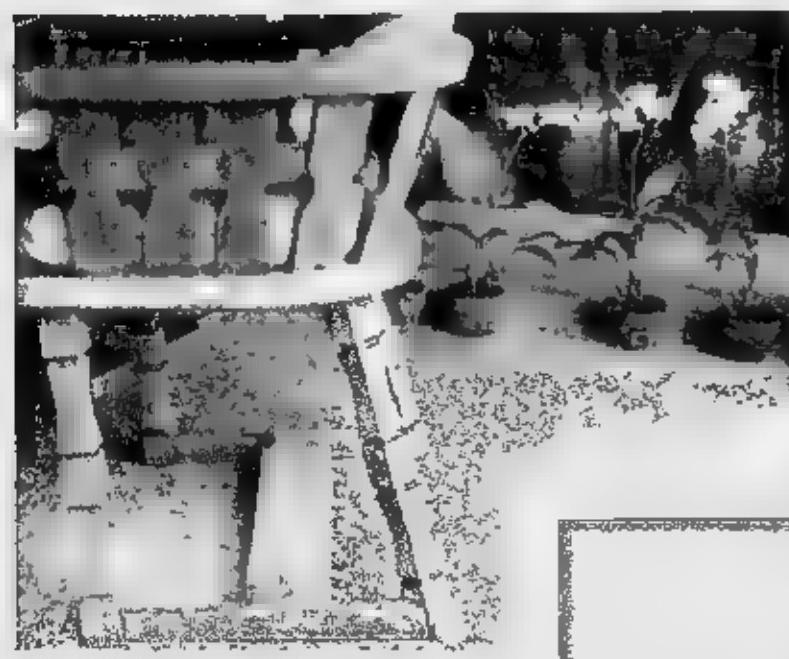
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## Easy recipes from a 'non-gardener'



POTTED flowers provide an instant garden in the porch.

BY ADRIAN V. LIZARES  
PHOTOS BY CHITO VECINA  
PICTORIAL DIRECTION BY ALBERT AVELLANA

**C**ONSIDER a garden with its cultivator having no sense of gardening whatsoever. In the course of my gardening life, I have come across people who raise questions like: "What can I do to have that little bit of green despite my lack of knowledge of plants?" Or worse, "I can't grow anything. I have a black thumb. Plants die at the sight of me." Nonsense! There is no such thing as a non-gardener. In each one of us is a gardener at heart.

If one were not so knowledgeable of gardens, one should start off with the simplest of plants. Having a very simple garden also means simple maintenance. No frills in the garden could easily translate into: No hard work for the garden. But then "simple" is a relative term.

Take the case of Georgia Diaz-Balset, who swears she has no gardening capabilities whatsoever. She has managed to turn a fairly large piece of land into what I consider a successful garden. It has all the elements of an interesting garden: History, functionality and practicality. Since she comes from a large family, the garden is a necessary space for convivial familial get-togethers.

### Spectacular view

The property sits on the ridge of Tagaytay with a spectacular view of Taal Lake and Volcano. George's father, the late Jimmy Diaz, acquired it more than 35 years ago for the family to have a front view of the volcano whenever it would act up. When the volcano is quiet and serene, the scene is quite breathtaking. The first-generation plants to come up were the coconut trees, a reminder of their family's passion and love for the beach.

EASY/p. 63



TASSELED inflorescence of the fishtail palm provides an excellent bouquet.



BALINESE-INSPIRED garden lamps

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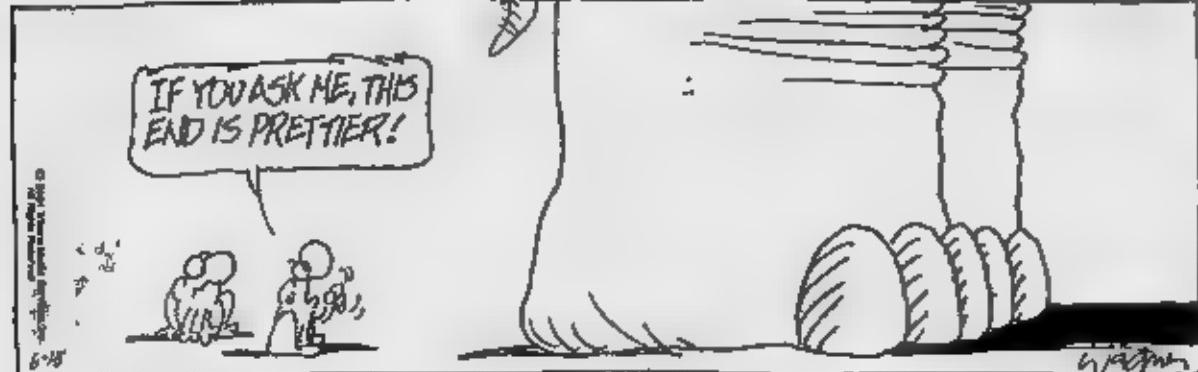
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## MOTHER GOOSE &amp; GRIMM



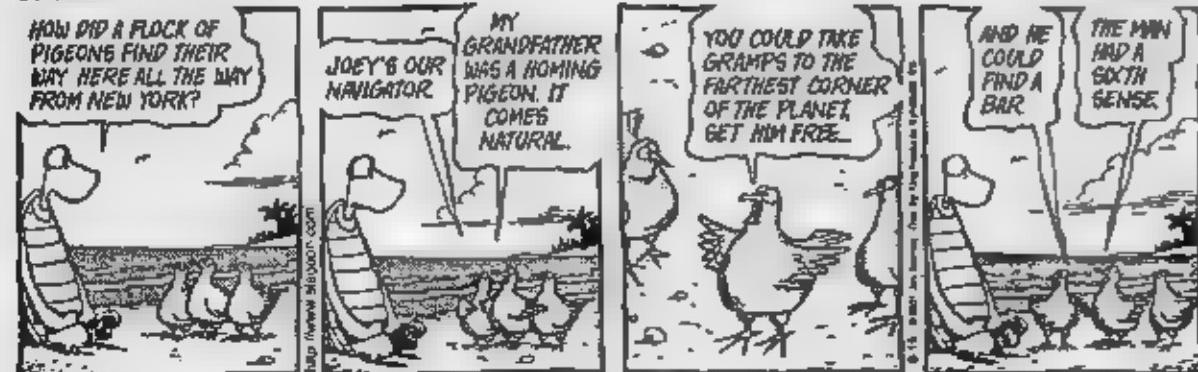
BY MIKE PETERS

## ANIMAL CRACKER



BY FRED WAGNER

## SHERMAN'S LAGOON



BY JIM TOOMEY

## BABY BLUES



BY JERRY SCOTT

## HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

## CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Carlos Santana, Kim Carnes, Diana Rigg, Giovanna Amato

Happy Birthday: Your sincerity will draw the attention of those who can make a difference in your future. Don't hold back, if you have a good idea, share it with people who could help you get ahead. This is a year to expand your interests and take the initiative. You'll make the advances you desire. Your numbers: 18, 20, 29, 33, 37, 48

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): Avoid confrontations with relatives. You will be a bit touchy and should refrain from discussing personal matters that will create tension.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): The best returns will come from work-related matters. Concentrate on making the changes that are necessary to get ahead.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Relatives are likely to play an important role in your personal life. Travel will be lots of fun but extremely costly. Tell your loved one how much you care.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): You are still questioning your personal direction. It's time to make some decisions about the one you love and what you want to do with the rest of your life.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): You will have good ideas regarding educational pursuits. You can help a friend or relative make the right decision. Be aware of your ability to influence others.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You need to feel that you're a part of something important. Get involved in activities that you believe in. You'll be satisfied if you know that you are helping others to help themselves. Dedication attracts loving companions.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Problems will continue if you don't sit down and have a heart-to-heart talk with your loved one. You have probably neglected your family in order to get ahead professionally.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Discard things that no longer benefit you. Re-evaluate your intentions and eliminate those standing in your way. Push your new ideas and introduce yourself to those who can help.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep a close eye on investments that may go sour. Don't allow friends or relatives to take advantage of you. Your greatest achievements will come through self-improvement projects.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): One-sided relationships are likely. Keep your feelings to yourself if you want to avoid embarrassment. You must question motives and honesty in your personal encounters.

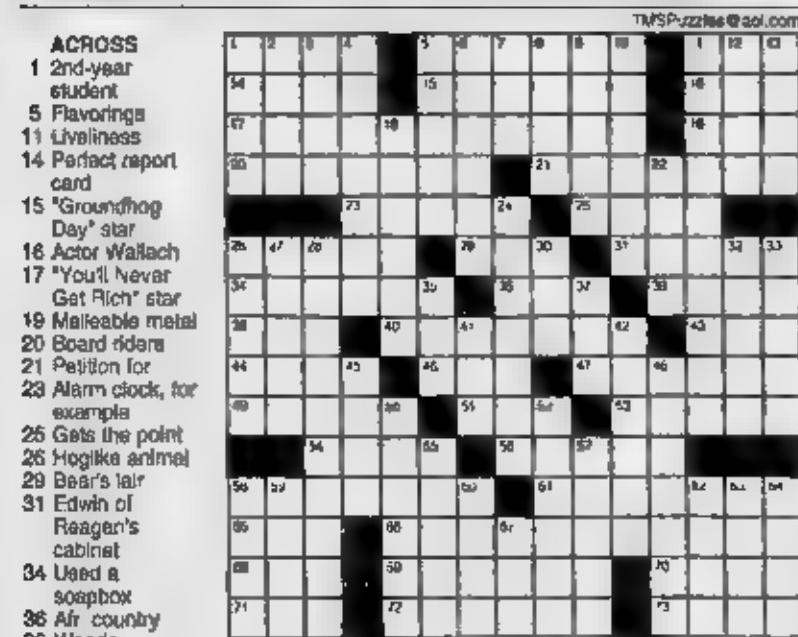
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Co-workers may change their minds suddenly, leaving you holding the bag. Be prepared to put in a little extra time to get a job finished. Don't let them try to take credit for your efforts.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Delve into who you are and what you want. Make changes to enhance your appearance and get you in tune with the times. You will have a good time if you do some traveling.

Birthday Baby: You are clever, intuitive and caring. You have a desire to follow your dreams and will always include others in your plans. You are an organizer and a master at solving problems.

## DAILY CROSSWORD

TNSP.Puzzles@aol.com

By D.J. DeChristopher  
Staten Island, NY

## PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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O	N	B	E	T	E	R	C	R	I	P
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2001

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5 Flavorings  
11 Liveliness  
14 Perfect report card  
15 "Groundhog Day" star  
16 Actor Wallach  
17 You'll never Get Rich" star  
18 Maleable metal  
20 Board riders  
21 Petition for  
23 Alarm clock, for example  
25 Gets the point  
26 Hoglike animal  
28 Bear's lair  
31 Edwin of Reagen's cabinet  
34 Used a soapbox  
36 Air country  
38 Woods residents  
39 Decay  
40 Devilish  
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## Easy recipes from a 'non-gardener'



DRY bridge by Denise Yabut-Cojuangco and Gabby Barredo

(From page E1)  
Georgie Diaz-Balliet has transformed a huge space in the Tagaytay hinterland into a green expanse, despite protesting she has no green thumb

EASY/p.E4



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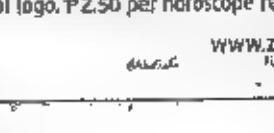
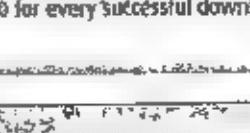
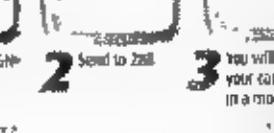
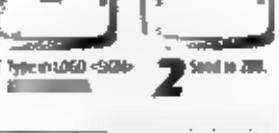
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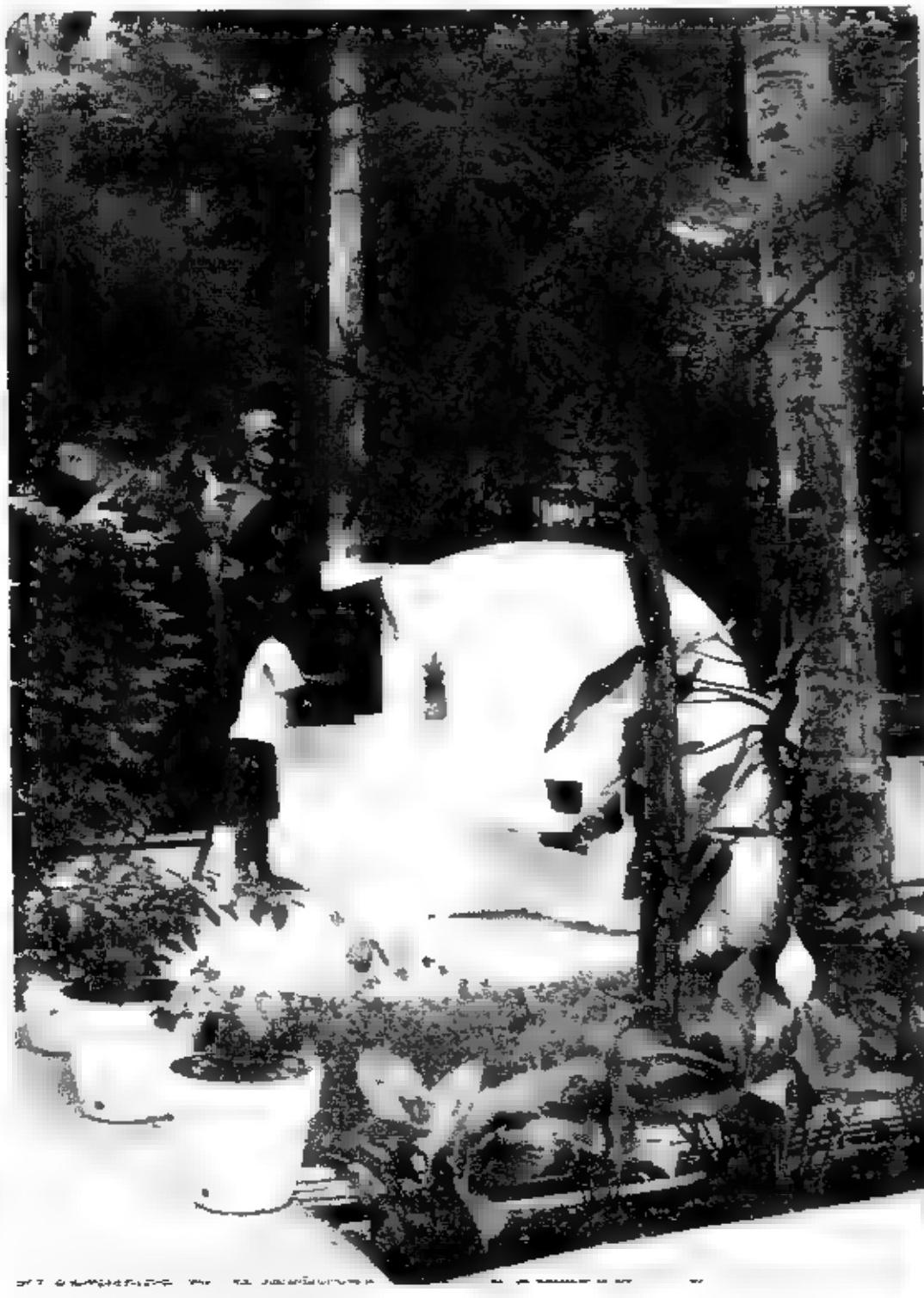
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PINE trees and coconuts near the brick oven

## Easy recipes from a 'non-gardener'

EASY/p.E12



UNDoubtedly a view of Tagaytay

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## Cheap antiques

THE BAZAAR at the Festival Supermall in Alabang is holding an Antiques and Furniture Fair.

Antique pieces on offer, which come from various collectors, include candleholders, porcelain vases and wares, woodcarvings, chests, religious icons, furniture and decor and others. Items are priced low, ranging from P600-2,600.

The Bazaar is located at the 4/L Festival Supermall, Cal. Hermi Sable of the Marketing Division at 850-3517 or Mean de Rosales of the Leasing Division at 850-3515.

## Combining tradition and modern ideas

CHRIS Lacson, new head of the Habitat Lifestyle Center, has brought together a team of young innovative designers to bring the company into the new millennium.

The young Lacson took over Habitat's top post after the passing of his father, Alexander Jr. Under leadership of the elder Lacson, Habitat built a reputation for creating useful pieces of furniture for both home and office.

The 42-year-old Chris, who

was based in the United States before coming home, hopes to maintain the tradition established by his father while making the business responsive to present and future demands. He hopes to keep their loyal customers even as they try to attract new clients.

Habitat Lifestyle Center at Pine corner Sheridan Street, Mandaluyong City, carries over 1,000 pieces of furniture and other items under one roof.



'WALING-WALING' hybrid at the Natividad Orchid Festival

## Orchid show focuses on 'waling-waling'

A UNIQUE orchids show will be held Aug. 18 to Sept. 18 at the Natividad Orchid Farm, 2 Valdefuentes, Maharlika Highway, Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija.

Dubbed "Waling-waling Festival in Cabanatuan," the show's centerpiece is a landscaped booth filled with original and award-winning species of the *Euanthe sandiana* in full bloom.

Lectures and demonstrations will be conducted by Philippine

Orchid Society vice president and consultant Andres Golamco Jr. on "Proper Care of Vandias" and "Starting an Orchid Business in Your Own Garden," 2 p.m. on Sept. 15.

Exotic, imported high-breed and rare species of orchids will be sold at discounted rates.

Group tours and field trips by garden clubs can be arranged. Call Jun Golamco Jr. at 438-5397. Admission is free.

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JULY 16-31, 2001

Activity Center, New Wing  
ALABANG TOWN CENTER

# A few encouraging words from Juan's Maker...

BY CHARLES E. BUBAN

**S**O YOU thought Ebenezer Scrooge was the only miser in town. Though his story of redemption became an inspiration to all of us, his stingy ways still live up to now. Juan is one follower who would rather keep his wealth for himself. God was a bit concerned and decided to reform Juan. One less miser in the world, one big relief for humanity. He thought.

But since it was not yet Christmas, God didn't bother to call up his three ghosts but decided to come down and pay Juan a visit.

So, here is Juan one early morning watching TV from his bed. Flipping over to CNN, Juan

can't help but notice that someone else is sitting in for Larry King.

And it was God.

"Juan," God says.

Juan's eyes become as big as frisbees. Petrified, Juan switches to a boxing match on ESPN. But, lo and behold! God is there, too, ducking punches from a panting, exasperated De la Joya.

"Juan, what have you been doing lately? Haven't you gone outside your room? You watch TV all day long, but you need sunshine from time to time. Look how pale your skin is. Haven't you visited places lately? Have you even gone shopping? I bet you haven't heard something big happening south of Metro Manila."

Juan ignores God and tries another channel, and

another, and another. But God is everywhere. On this one He is hosting a morning show.

"Wh-wh-wh," Juan stammers.

"What are you doing playing with the remote early in the morning when there are lots of things to do? And speaking of this TV, isn't it about time you buy a bigger one? I mean look at you, squinting just to watch me. Haven't you heard of 41-inch TVs? What about flat screens? I guess I have to update you on things."

"My advice is, you dress up and head to Alabang Town Center in Muntinlupa. There you will find the Installment Madness Expo, held jointly by Automatic Centre and BPI Credit Cards. You won't miss it, since it's in the mall's Activity Center, New Wing. Just follow where everybody's going. Since you missed the first one this year, you shouldn't miss this second expo. The Installment Madness Expo is until July 31, but I need you to get there now."

Still in disbelief, Juan flips over to a telenovela. God is munching on a taco, in front of the scene.

"By the way, the TVs I'm telling you about are all there on exhibit—every brand with all their wonderful features, so I bet you'll have a hard time choosing. When you're at it, you might as well check out the audio-video components. I dropped by yesterday and really enjoyed the movies they were playing on their VCD components on display."

Still confused, Juan flips to the Chinese channel and sees God performing tai-chi in mid-air.

"I know you don't have enough cash right now, or you're not too willing to part with it on anything, but don't worry. Just bring some change for the toll gate and gas station. You

A FEW/E7

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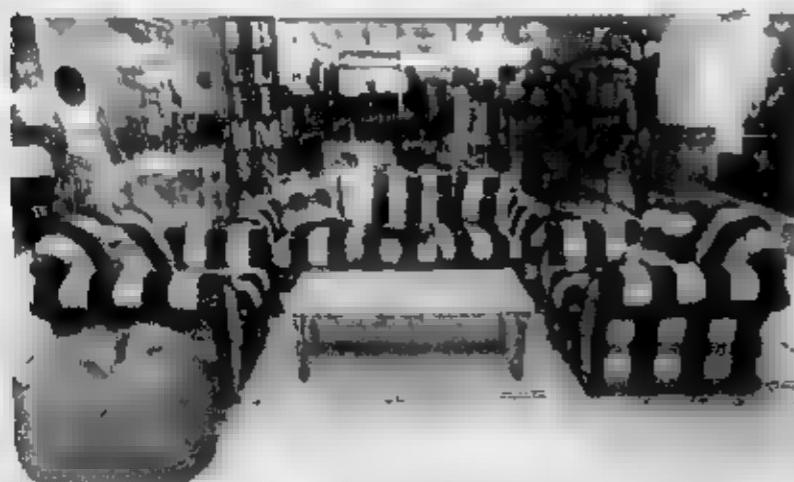

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NOW here's one good reason for Alabang Town Center's New Wing to be abuzz with activity

## A few encouraging words . . . (From page E6)

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**JVL INTERNATIONAL**  
TX 18VCA/W - Amana top mount ref, 18 cu. ft. (3, 6, 9 and 12 mos.)\*  
AC 221KW - Amana chest freezer 22 cu.ft. (3, 6, 9 and 12 mos.)\*  
\* Until July 27, 2001 only

DVD player model 955 (12 mos.)

La-Z-Boy #05-242 Linden rocker recliner, imported from USA (6 mos.)  
Seville II sofa set 311, fabric (12 mos.)

• And many more Amana, Pioneer, Whirlpool and Bims furniture products offered at 0% interest.

don't need to bring one for the Expo since BPI credit cards are accepted there. That's not all, if you buy on installment, you'll enjoy the Installment Madness rates. That means so many installment terms to choose from.

"Credit cardholders like you deserve added flexibility in buying appliances at the Expo. Best of all, you could pay for certain items on monthly installment at ZERO interest! Confused? Don't be. It's really quite simple. The credit card companies and appliance and furniture manufacturers have identified what products will be offered at various ZERO percent interest installment plans during the exhibit. What the customer will pay at the end of the term is only the cash price, broken down into several payments."

"But of course, I, being the all-knowing One, knew all of this even before the start," He chuckles.

Juan turns the TV off, but God's face still fills the screen.

"Always turn on to God, Juan. So, you're worried about your purchased item that may require servicing after a year or two? Never fear, my son. Automatic Centre gives you the Warranty Plus Program. If you buy an appliance, what you usually get is a one-year warranty. With Warranty Plus, you can get an extended warranty coverage of up to five years! That sounds like eternity in appliance heaven! And if within those five years your appliance requires some fixing, you only have to remember the number of Automatic Centre's hotline, 754-3515. The service center will take care of everything until it's fixed. The Warranty Plus is even transferable to the next owner if in case you decide to sell the appliance within the extended warranty

period. Isn't that divine?"

Juan finally musters enough of his wits to reason out. "What about the small stuff I'd like to buy, will they still be covered?"

"That's the Replacement Advantage Program. It works like Warranty Plus, but it's for my smaller creations. Say you buy a bleeder that needs servicing after the expiration of its one-year warranty. Automatic Centre will replace it with a brand-new one! No need to bring it to the service center anymore. What a covenant between manufacturer, dealer and consumer!"

Juan runs for his pick-up and drives out. Sull, God's voice is on the radio.

"There is some other matter. Some of the participating manufacturers will be giving away wonderful stuff when you buy their products, so check them out, too."

Sirens blare and lights flash behind the pick-up. Puzzled, Juan pulls over. It's God, again, dressed like a cop, walking over to Juan. He is holding some raffle coupons. Juan rolls down his window.

"Since you're going there, why not buy yourself an air-conditioner? Your place is kinda humid for my taste, and who knows, you might win another one for your bedroom since you will be qualified to join Automatic Centre and Concepcion-Carrier's raffle promo 'Cool Buy, Cool Win.' You simply have to buy any of their air-conditioner brands like Carrier, Condura and Kelvinator."

Juan nods eagerly.

"Now, I need you to do me a favor. Can you drop these raffle coupons off when you get there? I was so busy answering prayers yesterday, and My Son's beseeching me to give him a chance to win one for his room."

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# NUTRITION Month 2001

LEN DELOS REYES, Account Manager

SPROJECTS@INQUIRER.COM.PH

ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor

## Know the nutritional guidelines for Filipinos

**NUTRITION Month** is the time of the year when the public's attention is focused on nutrition along a chosen theme. It is mandated by Section 7 of Presidential Decree No. 491 (Nutrition Act of the Philippines, June 25, 1974), which states:

"The month of July shall be designated as Nutrition Month for the purpose of creating awareness among our people on the importance of nutrition. Activities shall be coordinated by the National Nutrition Council (NNC) and the local governments..."

### What is the National Nutrition Council?

The NNC is the highest policy-making and coordinating body on nutrition in the country. It has a

governing board composed of ten government organizations (GOs) and three representatives from the private sector. Chaired by the Department of Agriculture (DA), the NNC member agencies are the following:

- Department of Budget and Management (DBM)
- Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS)
- Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)
- Department of Health (DOH)
- Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)
- Department of Science and Technology (DOST)
- Department of Social Welfare and

### Development (DSWD)

- Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)
- National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)

Its three members from the private sector are appointed by the President of the Philippines for a two-year term.

The NNC Secretariat acts as the implementing arm of the NNC governing board. Thus, among others, it coordinates and leads in the celebration of Nutrition Month. This means that the NNC Secretariat links with GOs, local government units (LGUs), non-gov-

KNOW/E10



**Kahit big boy na,  
baby pa rin.**

**Ipinakikilala, gatas na bagay sa lumalaki. Bonakid.**

Malaki na ang kanyang ipinaghago. Ngayon, mabigat na siya, biglang tangkad, at maraining kanyang gawin. Pero kung tutusin, baby pa ang katawan niya. Hindi pa ganap ang kanyang paglaki.

Kaya may bagong Bonakid. Ang Bonakid ay sadyang ginawa para sa kanya. May tamang sustansya sa tamang sukat. Dahil bata pa ang kanyang mga buto, baby pa ang ngipin, kailangan niya ng mas maraming calcium.

Dahil maselam pa ang kanyang tiyan, kailangan walang butterfat. At dahil lumalaki pa siya, kailangan niya ng mas maraming protina, iron at B-complex. Dahil espesyal ang iyong anak, kigyan mo siya ng espesyal na alaga.

Ba't mo siya bibiligan ng ordinaryong gatas?

**Baby pa kasi.**



Reassurance beyond nutrition.

## Breakfast provides the needed boost

HAS IT BEEN your habit lately to skip breakfast and go straight to lunch, for what we call the sumptuous and hearty "brunch" (breakfast and lunch combined)? That would really be convenient for our busy lifestyles. We don't have to hassle ourselves in the morning preparing breakfast, and besides, we could use that extra hour to catch up on some lost Zs.

But when we skip breakfast, we may be unduly sacrificing more than what we bargain for. If you consider the last time you ate a decent meal, which was around 8 last night, then your body must really be starved. If you woke up at 9 a.m., for example, you haven't eaten anything for 13 hours. And if you eat your first meal of the day at 12 noon, then your "fasting" would have lasted 16 hours. That's quite too long for your body to take, considering that between meals (between lunch and merienda and dinner) there is a gap of only four or five hours.

Your brain and muscles need an energy boost in the morning when you wake up. Heading off to school or work on an empty stomach is like a car running on an empty fuel tank. You simply won't have enough energy to keep up with the others.

So, simply said, breakfast is important, probably the most important meal of the day. But what is the best meal for breakfast? It's good to eat a variety of foods for breakfast, just like the way we eat during lunch or dinner.

We may have a hot or cold breakfast. We may get our food from the can, from the farm, or from the box. We may prefer cereals with milk, or hotcakes with lots of syrup. Or eat bacon and fried rice and follow it down with a glass of OJ. It doesn't matter. By eating different breakfast foods, you'll get the nutrients you need, and literally "break the fast" to last you until lunch.

Aries B. Espinosa

## The toddler age: a time of changing needs

TODDLERHOOD is a time of discovery. This stage is one of endless activity and of changing diets. By the end of the first year, children are eating solid foods. But what you may not realize is that it may take a few more months before they will eat the variety and quantity of food needed to meet all their dietary needs. And what you need to realize is that toddlers are still far from being grown up. They are not yet fully developed physically. They really are still babies.

Many parents use cow's milk as a way to add nutrients or to "supplement" solid food. Unfortunately, recent studies suggest that this type of diet may not give children of this age the balanced nutrition they need for normal growth. Toddlers need something more than cow's milk to help meet their nutritional requirements.

Toddlers need iron, vitamin C, and other nutrients that cow's milk does not provide. Because children's physical and mental development is so rapid at this age, their need for iron is greatly increased. Unfortunately, solid foods and cow's milk can be low in iron. In fact, the use of cow's milk has been linked with iron deficiency and anemia. Not only is cow's milk a poor source of iron, but the body poorly absorbs the iron it does contain. Iron deficiency early in childhood can lead to long-term effects on mental development that may be irreversible.

The right amount and balance of fat and fatty acids are important to children's health. It is recommended that parents begin reducing the daily fat intake of children over two years old to 30 percent of their total diet. To improve fat digestibility and to provide for essential fatty acids, it is important that the milk you give your child does not contain butterfat that is found in cow's milk for proper growth and development.

Toddlers still have baby teeth and their bones are still young. Calcium is one mineral that children need for proper bone growth. Research shows that children need to have the right amount of calcium in their diet to lessen the risk of accidental bone fractures later in life. However, the excessive amount of protein in cow's milk lowers blood calcium levels, causing the body to draw on calcium from the bones. That's why it is important to ensure that children get the right amount of protein in their diet. Also, vitamin D is crucial for toddlers because the body uses it to help get calcium into the bones. This is why vitamin D is often added to milk (this is called "fortified" milk).

All B vitamins help give children energy and help them to build brain cells. Vitamin B1 and niacin (which is part of the B complex chain) help the body produce energy in its cells, among other things. Vitamin B6 helps the body fight illness and infection, while B12 is used to develop red blood cells. The right amount of B vitamins in their diet helps protect children from slowed growth, anemia, eye troubles, nerve damage, and heart problems.

## NUTRITION MONTH UPDATE:

# Breakfast Helps Your Child Perform Better in School!

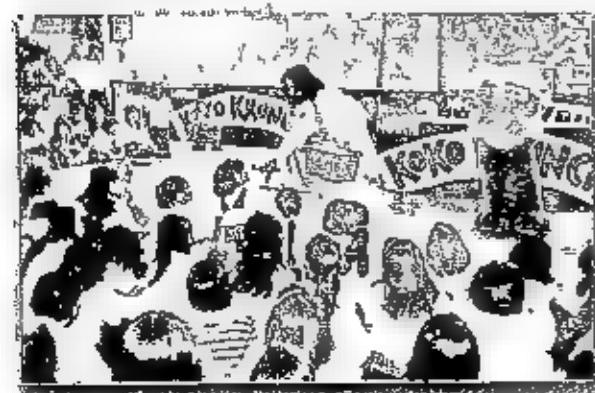
We know for a fact that nutrition is linked to our kids' growth and long-term ability to achieve. But did you know that something as simple as eating breakfast everyday can help your child do better in school? According to health studies, yes it can.

### WHY BREAKFAST?

Simply put, breakfast means "to break the fast."

There is no question in the minds of health-conscious moms that breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Consider this: it's been eight to nine hours since your child has had a meal. So his body needs to be refueled with a healthy breakfast to make him perform better during the day.

Your child's brain needs nourishment to function efficiently. Children who skip breakfast experience hunger pangs and have trouble concentrating and assimilating information and become inattentive and restless by late morning. Prolonged hunger can also cause headaches and irritability in class. All these create obstacles to your child's learning.



### YES — BREAKFAST BOOSTS SCHOOL PERFORMANCE!

This was proven by a landmark study by the Center for Applied Research and Educational Achievement at the University of Minnesota.

For two years, six Minnesota elementary schools were provided cereals by Minneapolis-based General Mills for the research.

Researchers were pleased at the positive results: an increase of up to 10 percent in reading scores and up to 16 percent for math scores!

Not only that, the study also reports that over a period of time, discipline problems dropped by 40 to 50 percent and visits to the nurse's office declined by 30 to 60 percent.

Dr. Kyla Wiström, the lead researcher for the project from the University of Minnesota said, "The research provides solid evidence that children learn better when they are given breakfast each morning."



### NESTLÉ BREAKFAST CEREALS MAKES THE GRADE

Your child deserves not just any breakfast but one that can help him set the day off to a good start. And Nestlé Breakfast Cereals meets the standards.

### NUTRITIOUS

One serving (30 grams) of Nestlé Breakfast Cereals, combined with 125 ml of milk, provides at least 25 percent of the recommended daily allowance (RDA) for important nutrients like Vitamin C, B1, B2, Niacin, Folic Acid, and Iron for children 7-12 years old. It also contains calcium necessary to strengthen your child's bones and teeth.

### DELICIOUS

Nestlé Breakfast Cereals has several delicious variants to choose from. They come in chocolate, honey, natural corn, nutty and fruity flavors. The 11 variants include Koko Krunch, Milo Bails, Honey Stars, Trix, Snow Flakes, Choco Flakes, Corn Flakes, Honey Gold, Almond Clusters, Banana Nut Clusters, and Frutina.

And for more variety, you can give Nestlé Breakfast Cereals a delicious twist by mixing in your child's favorite fruits.

### CONVENIENT

Sometimes, mornings go by in a blur because of the usual school rush, leaving little or no time for breakfast. With Nestlé Breakfast Cereals, that wouldn't be a problem. Just put it in a bowl and add milk. It's so easy that your child can even do it himself!

### NESTLÉ BREAKFAST CEREALS A PARTNER IN PROMOTING THE HEALTHY BREAKFAST HABIT

Knowing its positive effects on school performance, kids should be further encouraged to eat breakfast daily to help them do well in school. Nestlé Breakfast Cereals, the leader in its category in Asia, is set to help promote this healthy habit through their "Smart Start for Smart Kids" campaign.

Starting July, The Nestlé Koko Krunch Breakfast Tour Team will visit numerous schools in Metro Manila with a line up of educational and fun-filled activities for students, parents and teachers to reinforce the importance of breakfast and its positive effects on the child's school performance.



Ms. Sanirose Orbeta, a noted clinical and sports nutritionist, will be giving a series of talks to parents and teachers alike to share the enlightening and positive results of the Minnesota landmark study. She will also expound on some basic nutrition facts and how the different kinds of food affect health and performance. She'll also share tips on how to implement the food pyramid guide via basic examples for lunch, dinner, snacks, and of course, the most important meal of the day — breakfast!

And for a little bit of healthy competition, there is the annual contest — this year dubbed as "The Koko Krunch Quiz Show". It's a fun and exciting competition open to science-smart students from Grades 3 to 6. Plus, for all the schools to be visited, delicious and chocolatey Nestlé Koko Krunch will be served to students so they can sample and enjoy this delightfully healthy treat.

Make breakfast a habit.  
It's a smart start for  
smart kids!



A smart start  
for smart kids

## Maintain children's normal growth through proper diet and monitor their growth regularly

INFANTS and young children grow very fast. That is why they should eat the right kinds and amounts of food every day to grow properly and attain the right weight and height for their age. Ideally, a healthy baby must weigh at least 2.5 kg at birth; about 5 kg or double their birth weight at six months; and about 7.5 kg or triple the birth weight at one year. Failure to gain weight over a period of two to three months and rapid loss of weight are danger signs. Excessive weight gain, on the other hand, indicates tendency toward overweight or obesity. Hence, it is important to monitor the weight and height of the child regularly by bringing him or her to the health center or to the doctor or even to the Barangay Nutrition Scholar (BNS) for monthly weighing. For children 1 to 6 years old, and school children, it is best to consult a medical doctor, a nutritionist-dietitian or a health worker to determine the ideal body weight.

So how can we ensure the normal growth of our children? The key is still in eating a variety of foods every day. To have a nutritious and well-balanced diet every day, it is best to choose foods from the different food groups; namely, energy-giving foods, body-building foods and body-regulating foods or what we know as Go, Grow, Glow foods.

Rice, corn, root crops, bread and bakery products, cooking oil, butter,



margarine and other fats and sugars are examples of Go foods. The main nutrients in these foods are carbohydrates. Carbohydrates and fats are chief sources of energy needed for work and play. Body-building foods or Grow foods, on the other hand, are rich in protein and minerals needed for growth and repair of body tissues. Protein also gives energy, but it is more important as a body-building nutrient. Meat, fish, poultry, eggs, milk and milk products, nuts and dried beans are examples of Grow foods. Meanwhile, body-regulating or Glow foods include fruits and vegetables which are high in vitamins A and C, iron, and fiber.

For mothers who have underweight children, here are some tips to help improve their nutritional status:

- Serve a glass of milk every day

to meet protein, calcium and B-vitamin needs;

- Serve a good breakfast each day. The breakfast meal can be any combination of Go, Grow, and Glow foods. Generally, a good breakfast provides 1/4 to 1/3 of the recommended daily allowance (RDA) for calories and at least 1/4 of protein.

- Serve nutritious meals and snacks such as *mongo* and milk, *chamorro*, *guinataang halo-halo*, buttered boiled *kamote*. Snacks, however, should not reduce the appetite of the child for regular meal times.

- Encourage children to exercise lightly to stimulate their appetite and promote sound sleep.

Meanwhile, for mothers with overweight children, here are also some helpful tips:

- Avoid giving fatty foods.
- Give lean meat, fish, and poultry without skin more frequently.

- Give carbohydrate foods which provide fiber like bread, cereals and root crops. Avoid concentrated sweets, rich pastries, and desserts.

- Give more fruits and vegetables.
- Encourage children to take up a hobby and exercise regularly.

Remember, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. So, do not hesitate to bring your child to the nearest health center or doctor for a regular check-up and growth monitoring.

## Consume fish, lean meat, poultry or dried beans

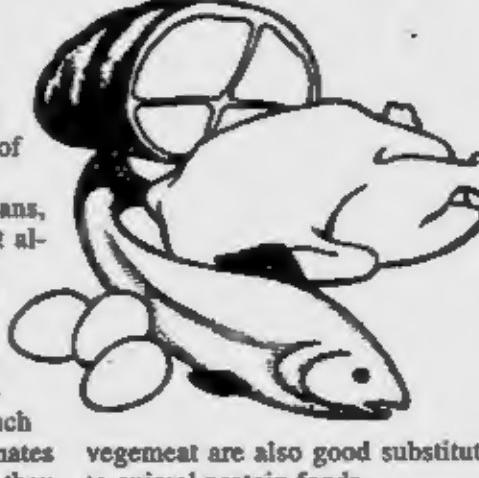
THE FOOD consumption survey conducted by the Food and Nutrition Research Institute of the Department of Science and Technology showed that the average Filipino diet consists mainly of plant-based foods. In fact, almost ¾ of the food we eat comes from plants.

We can improve the Filipino diet by increasing our consumption of animal products or substitutes. Including fish, lean meat, poultry or dried beans in the daily meals will not only enhance the protein quality of the diet but also supply highly absorbable iron, preformed vitamin A and zinc. Fish, lean meat, poultry without skin and dried beans are low in saturated fats. Fatty meats, in contrast, have been linked to heart disease due to its high content of saturated fats.

Specifically, meat, fish, poultry and eggs are excellent sources of high-quality protein since they con-

tain all the essential amino acids for building body proteins. These foods are important for growth and development of children and the maintenance of body tissues in adults.

On the other hand, dried beans, legumes and nuts are excellent alternatives for animal foods. While they contain proteins of lower biological value than animal foods, the total protein value of such foods when consumed with cereal proteins such as those found in rice, approximates that of meats. More importantly, they also cost less. Legumes have also the additional nutritional benefit of being low in fat and high in fiber. Dried beans, legumes and nuts are also good sources of iron and B-complex vitamins. About ¼ cup of cooked *mongo* may be substituted for a serving of fish or meat. Soybean products like *tokwa*, *tofu* and



vegetables are also good substitutes to animal protein foods.

To get the quality proteins that your body needs, make sure to include fish, meat, and poultry in your diet daily and consume egg at least three times a week. Remember, it only takes about 1 ½ to 2 servings (a serving is about a matchbox size) of meat or fish or poultry or a half-cup of dried beans daily.

## Know the nutritional guidelines . . . (From page E8)

overnment organizations (NGOs), the academe, media, and business corporations to make the celebration more meaningful. While the secretariat has a staff complement of about 120, its network, composed of interagency nutrition committees chaired by local chief executives, extends down to the barangay level.

**What is the focus of Nutrition Month 2001?**

The theme for the 27th Nutrition Month celebration is "Wastong Nutrisyon: Alamin, Gawin at Palaganapin!" The theme focuses on the continued promotion and dissemination of the 10 Nutritional Guidelines for Filipinos (NGF). The theme seeks to reinforce into the people's consciousness the importance of the NGF and subsequently, influence desired behaviors for good nutrition. It also calls on each one to help spread the NGF messages.

**What are nutritional guidelines?**

Nutritional Guidelines are primary recommendations to promote good health through proper nutrition. They are simple statements that give advice on the consumption of foods and food components for which there are public health concerns. Such concerns include the prevalence of malnutrition and specific nutritional deficiencies, the lack of balance in the intake of nutrients, the decreasing practice of breast-feeding, the increasing incidence of diet-related chronic degenerative diseases, the increasing practice of unhealthy lifestyles, and the consumption of unsafe foods.

**What are the goal and objectives of the Nutritional Guidelines for Filipinos?**

The goal of the NGF is the improvement of the nutritional status, productivity and quality of life of the

population, through adoption of desirable dietary practices and health lifestyles.

The NGF aims to: a) increase the food and dietary energy intake of the average Filipino; b) prevent nutritional deficiency diseases and nutrition-related chronic degenerative diseases; c) promote a healthy well-balanced diet; and d) promote food safety.

### Nutritional Guidelines for Filipinos

1. Eat a variety of foods every day. No single food provides all the nutrients the body needs. Choosing different kinds of foods from all food groups is the first step to obtain a well-balanced diet. This will help correct the common practice of confining food choice to a few kinds of food, resulting in an imbalanced diet.

2. Breastfeed infants exclusively from birth to 4 to 6 months, and then, give appropriate foods while continuing breastfeeding. This practice ensures a complete and safe food for the newborn and the growing infant besides imparting the other benefits of breastfeeding. It also advocates the giving of appropriate complementary food in addition to breastmilk once the infant is ready for solid foods at about six months.

3. Maintain children's normal growth through proper diets and monitor their growth regularly. This gives advice on proper feeding of children. It also promotes regular weighing to monitor the growth of children, as it is a simple way to assess nutritional status.

4. Consume fish, lean meat, poultry or dried beans. Including fish, lean meat, poultry or dried beans in the regular diet will provide good quality protein and dietary energy, as well as

iron and zinc—key nutrients lacking in the diet of Filipinos as a whole.

5. Eat more vegetables, fruits and root crops. Eating more vegetables, fruits and root crops will supply the much-needed vitamins, minerals and dietary fiber that are deficient in our diet. In addition, they provide defense against chronic degenerative diseases.

6. Eat foods cooked in edible/cooking oil in your daily meals. Including foods cooked in edible oils will provide additional dietary energy as a partial remedy to caloric deficiency of the average Filipino.

7. Consume milk, milk products and other calcium-rich foods, such as small fish and dark green, leafy vegetables every day. Including milk and other calcium-rich foods in the diet will serve to supply not only calcium for healthy bones but to provide high quality protein and other nutrients for growth.

8. Use iodized salt, but avoid excessive intake of salty foods. This promotes the use of iodized salt to prevent iodine deficiency, which is a major cause of mental retardation and physical underdevelopment in the country. The guideline also warns against excessive intake of salty foods to prevent hypertension, particularly among high-risk individuals.

9. Eat clean and safe foods. This is intended to prevent food-borne diseases. It explains the various sources of contamination of our food and simple ways to prevent its occurrence.

10. For a healthy lifestyle and good nutrition, exercise regularly, do not smoke and avoid drinking alcoholic beverages. Promotes healthy lifestyle through regular exercise, abstinence from smoking, and avoiding alcohol consumption. If alcohol is consumed, it must be done in moderation.

## People, Events & Products

ARIES E. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor



### SMART, MARIEX TIE UP FOR TEXTMAIL

Wireless services leader Smart Communications Inc. has recently entered into an agreement with local content provider Mariex Ventures Corp. for the provision of an enhanced infrastructure for TextMail, Smart's newest e-mail service. Shown during the contract signing were (from left) Jerome Almirante, Smart marketing manager for mobile value-added services; Elmar Gomez of Mariex; Anastacio Martinez, Smart head for personal communications and mobile services division; and David Dizon, Smart business development manager for mobile value-added services.



### MEGALINK CONNECTS TO EQUITABLE CARDNETWORK

Megalink has signed a new connection to the Equitable CardNetwork Inc. Under the agreement, Equitable Visa, Mastercard, JCB and American Express credit cardholders will be able to pay for their bills at www.equitablecard.com using their Megalink ATM cards. The contract signing was held during the recent 11th anniversary celebration of Megalink as the country's pioneering ATM consortium. Shown above are (from left) Equitable card office president Tony Conway, SE vice president Eugenio Hernando, Equitable Card and Megalink president and Equitable PCIBank co-chair Antonio L. Go, director, executive committee member and Bank of Commerce president Raul B. De Mesa, Equitable PCIBank executive vice president Rene J. Buenaventura and FVP-MIS systems support integration Dennis Velasquez.



### 5TH PHILIPPINE ACADEMIC BOOK FAIR

The Association of Booksellers for the Academe and the Professions renews its annual contract with Tradex Specialist as the event manager of the ongoing 5th Philippine Academic Book Fair from July 16 to 20 at the UP Bahay ng Alumni, Diliman, Quezon City. Shown signing the appointment papers are (seated from left) Lino A. Dagus, Alfredo P. Bulario, Virginia P. Gapuz, Abap president; Larissa Lynn B. Eva, Tradex project director and Alvin Abella. Witnessing the signing are (standing, from left) Mayleen Empaynado of the UP Bahay ng Alumni, Edwin Makabenta, Lydia Wenceslao and Marycel Espenia, project officer of Tradex.



### MY SPECIAL VALENTINE DRAW

DTI director Amaldo del Rosario (second from left) is seen with Lemma Scu, Dottie Pineda and Ellen Lambinio of Bookware Publishing Corporation during the recent monthly draw of 'Nokia 3310 Raffle Promo' held at the company's offices in Pasig City. For the readers of My Special Valentine (MSV) pocketbooks, the lucky winner for April is Ruth Alberia of Pasig City. The company also announces that they are still accepting manuscripts from new romance novelists. For details, call 631-6993 to 94.

## CAP College elevates status

AFTER completing the requirements and surpassing the rigid procedures, distance learning pioneer CAP College Foundation Inc. has been accepted as an associate member of the Asian Association of Open Universities (AAOU) along with other Philippine-based schools UP Open University and Polytechnic University of the Philippines. CAP College is also a proud member of the International Council for Distance Education (ICDE).

In the local scene, it is one of the 11 founding institutions of Open and Distance Learning Foundation Inc. (ODLF), which acts as a resource center where institutional members can avail of training programs, get involved in current issues and trends affecting the development of OL/DE, and develop linkages and network among OL/DE institutions to promote effective sharing of expertise.

Established in 1988, at a time when Distance Education (DE) was just being introduced in the country, CAP College became known as "the school without walls". It envisioned higher-education opportunities for Filipinos through innovative techniques.

At present, there are two colleges: liberal arts and business administration offering certificate, associate, baccalaureate and graduate programs which are all duly recognized by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). From 1,000 students in 1988, enrollment rose to 6,929, exceeding its target of 1,500 enrollees for 2000 alone.

This dramatic increase in the number of stu-

dents is due to the growing demand for continuing education. In today's heavy competition, updating one's skills is of vital importance. Thanks to CAP College, DE, indeed, has proven to be the appropriate alternative to conventional formal schools.

What sets CAP College apart from other DE institution is its impressive track record. It uses media mix and technological innovations, from enrollment procedures up to the materials used for instructional delivery. Its next venture is online learning. Right now, materials are being prepared along with an online tutoring/mentoring system.

Course offering are constantly evaluated through meetings with its academic review board. This is to ensure that course offerings conform to the needs of various industries. BS Office Administration major in office management and AB in Pastoral Studies are the latest additions to CAP College's growing list of courses. Furthermore, short-term training and workshops for security guards, computer technicians and nurses are also conducted.

To cope up with and fully enjoy self-paced learning, there are student conferences, tutorial sessions and counseling, and quarterly issues of "The Trailblazer", among others. These learning enhancement activities greatly support DE students.

With testimonies pouring in from different sectors of society, CAP College continues to fulfill its vision and plans to do more. For more info, log on to capcollege@cap.com.ph.

## RP bird sites: 117 pockets of hope

WHEN it comes to wildlife conservation, the Philippines is not a lost cause, says Anabelle E. Plantilla, executive director of Haribon Foundation. Haribon is an organization that grew from a bird-watching society to a group with strong focus on bird conservation. "We are not a lost cause," she explains, "because we have 117 pockets of hope."

The 117 pockets she refers to are the 117 Important Bird Areas (IBAs) that have been identified through hands-on research and field studies conducted throughout the Philippines. The results of these studies are now compiled in a book just off the press, "Key Conservation Sites in the Philippines" by Neil Aldrin Mallari, Blas Tabaranza Jr. (both of Haribon) and Michael J. Crosby of Birdlife International's Asia Division, published by Bookmark.

With the information in the book, environmentalists eager to contribute to conservation efforts or researchers and students following up on individual birds, can be more focused. Facts and figures will inform them where specific wildlife can be found and in what state whether endangered or in near extinction.

Through the efforts of Haribon Foundation, and its partner in conservation, Birdlife International, major supporters of the field studies, the authors have found that "there are more large tracts of high-quality forest than [were] recognized just a few years ago, and that many species of birds and other organisms are more resilient to the effects of logging and forest fragmentation" than was first thought.

Aside from its usefulness as a conservation reference, the book's information has global implications as the Philippines is regarded by all major international conservation organizations as one of the highest priorities in the world for conservation concern. We have enormous biological diversity, extraordinary levels of endemism, but also a high rate of deforestation and habitat destruction. Studies reveal that with "realistic and attainable management programs," we may yet see the survival of threatened species.

The book is heavy, both in weight and substance. Lawrence R. Heaney of the Chicago Field Museum, who writes the introduction, calls the data "among the most important information to date on the state of the environment in the Philippines." It took the authors six years to write, during which they traveled throughout the archipelago, reaching places very few have been to, even facing danger at times. Not the present information the end of the story. Updating and monitoring existing data is part of the Haribon-Birdlife International commitment.

The IBA project in the Philippines, incidentally, began in 1996 with funding from the UK's Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species.

The 117 IBAs cover the country from Batanes, Palawan (which is dotted with IBA markings on the map), down to Tawi-Tawi, Sibutu and Tumindao Islands in the Celebes Sea. Sometimes an entire island is marked as IBA.

In the course of their field studies, authors Mallari, Tabaranza and Crosby established that the dominant habitat of Philippine IBAs is the forest, and for its size, the Philippines supports a "remarkable number of globally threatened species."

IBAs are categorized in different ways. One is according to their distribution in Endemic Bird Areas (EBA) and Secondary Areas (SA) in which case they are classified as Globally Threatened

### SEEING GREEN

Doris Gaskell Nuyda

**Species, Restricted Range Species and Congregator Waterbirds and Seabirds.** A second category lists EBA data by region or province, along with that of the Red Data Book (RDB) which earlier, published its own listing. So while the EBA lists species as either Endemic (E) and Restricted Range (RR), the RDB classifies them as Vulnerable (VU), Endangered (EN), Critical (CR), Near Threatened (NT), Least Concern (LC) and Data Deficient (DD).

**PENELOPIDES manillae** Among birds classified as threatened are the Philippine cuckoo, the Philippine eagle, Philippine hawk eagle, spotted imperial pigeon, Philippine kingfisher and Philippine duck, most of which are distributed in different sites but endangered wherever found.

#### Habitat loss

The greatest reason for bird extinction in the Philippines is habitat loss. This is one overriding message one gets from the book. The loss is due to ongoing large-scale land conversion, permanent shifting agriculture, logging, encroachment of human settlements in or near the IBAs, mining, developments for roads or tourism and draining of wetlands for agriculture and fisheries.

#### IBA distribution

IBAs are distributed throughout 10 areas, seven of them EBA and three, SA. The largest EBA is in Mindanao and Eastern Visayas, followed by Luzon.

"Key Conservation Sites in the Philippines" categorizes all the habitats of birds by region or province and according to the state of their existence—whether they are threatened or critical or vulnerable.

The book is full of maps showing the sites and black and white drawings by O. Figuracion illustrating individual birds. There are descriptions of the 117 IBAs and a list of the birds found in each. These listings comprise the great bulk of the book and are meant to aid identification and research work.

The authors have been thorough and exacting in their work, adhering at all times to international standards of classification, for easy correlation and comparison with other countries, especially those in Southeast Asia where similar species may be found.

As for the "pockets of hope," all 117 are found only in the Philippines. One day, the authors expect that number to increase.



**PENELOPIDES manillae**



**SLATY-BACKED jungle-flycatcher**

**OTHER FACTORS** have a more direct effect on wildlife decimation. These are hunting for trade, trophy or meat; the collection of large quantities of firewood (including charcoal) and other forest products like rattan, peat moss, wild orchids or plants. Then, of course, there are the natural causes—typhoons, volcanic eruptions, El Niño, landslides due to earthquakes and forest fires.

#### IBA distribution

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## A seminar for couples set

COUPLES who are seriously considering getting married are invited to attend the Catholic Engaged Encounter weekend from July 27-29 at the Manresa Retreat House in Del Monte, QC. Call 523-3361, 820-7352, 826-8591 and 726-6568.

**MISSION.** Fr. Jerry M. Orbo, a Marian priest and mission director of SVD (Society of the Divine Word) Mission Phils., invites everyone to support the project Rosary for the SVD Missions.

Five to 10 rosaries can be sent to the poor SVD Mission Territories in the Philippines, Africa and South America for every P100 donation to the project. Donors may also get the chance to win P100,000 cash, a pilgrimage trip to Naju, Korea with Father Orbo and other valuable prizes in the Bingo Bonanza on July 22, 2 p.m., at the covered courts of the Christ the King Seminary, 101 E. Rodriguez Sr. Blvd., QC. Donation tickets are available at the SVD Mission Office at the seminary compound. Call 725-9006 or 721-7457.

**WORKSHOP.** Contemplative Outreach Phils. will be conducting a "Centering Prayer" workshop in Tagalog. "Centering Prayer" is a form of prayer that opens our minds and hearts to God's indwelling in the center of our beings. The workshop will be held on Aug. 4 and 5, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., at the Philippine Cooperative Center, 90 Bailete Drive Extension near

the corner of E. Rodriguez Sr. Boulevard. Call 722-1968 or 740-0749.

**SEMINAR.** Psychpros, a center for psychological assessment and intervention, invites parents, educators, medical and allied medical professionals to a seminar-workshop dubbed "Coping with ADHD: Multiple Perspectives" on July 28 and 29 at the Justice Roberto Concepcion Hall, Philippine Mental Health Association, East Avenue. Call 928-9878. For registration, visit the office at 3F President Tower Building, 81 Timog Ave., Diliman, QC. Deadline of payment and registration is on July 21.

**EXHIBIT.** In line with the 75th anniversary of Miriam College (formerly Maryknoll College), the B.S. Entrepreneurship program will hold a series of talks and an exhibit on "Tourism Business: Cashing on Business Opportunities" from July 25-28 at the Little Theater of Paz Adriano Hall, Miriam College, Katipunan Road, QC.

**BOOK FAIR.** The Philippine Board on Books for Young People and Shangri-La Plaza Mall with Nido hold the 3rd PBBY Children's Book Festival until July 22 at the Shangri-La Plaza Mall. The festival will feature a children's book fair, storytelling and book signings sessions, an exhibit of children's book illustrators, and other activities. Call 372-3548 or 49.

## Auditions for retro musical

Actor's Actors Inc. will relive Swinging '60s in "Promises, Promises" this October. The musical has a hilarious book by Neil Simon, music by Burt Bacharach and lyrics by Hal David.

Chuck Baxter, an eager young executive, lends out his one-bedroom apartment to his corporate bosses for their extramarital flings. However, he has second thoughts, especially after learning a young woman he fancies is having an affair with the big chief.

Michael Williams returns to his expertise, the musical comedy, opposite Menchu Lauchengco-Yulo,



MENCHU Lauchengco-Yulo

a musical star who has the voice perfectly suited for Bacharach's driving melodies and David's hard-edge lyrics.

"Promises, Promises" makes theatergoers wonder why Bacharach and David didn't write another score for Broadway. Enjoy like "I'll Never Fall in Love Again," "Waiting Thing," "Knowing When to Leave" and, of course, the little song, "Promises, Promises."

Open auditions are being held on July 23 and 24, 3-6 p.m., at the Republic of Malate, A. Mabini, Malate, Manila. Bring personal data and pictures. Call 536-5844.

## LIFESTYLE

DEAR Tita Dulce,

My problem with my Mom is that she is very strict. At times everything she says to me is negative. I work with her in the business managed by her family. I really do not want to work there because they are very arrogant and very aggressive. At times they insult me. My work is very hard to do, and I work from early morning every day. Please help! What will I do?

MONIQUE 22

Your problem is hard to answer, since you did not give me details about what kind of business you deal with and what happens that make her relatives insult you.

The initial reaction to your letter is sympathy for your mental pains. I quoted every word in your e-mailed letter, except the Visayan city you placed under your name.

Now, to answer your question as to what you should do: Concentrate on what is happening to you. What really happens before your Mom says what makes you unhappy? Did you do anything wrong? Why do her relatives insult you?

Nothing happens without a cause. They cannot just insult you without a reason. Or, if insulting you is just a habit then just remain silent. Take note of what they criticize in what you do and try to improve on it. Or ask their opinion on what you should do.

Is your mother bothered about something in her life, and just expressing her feelings and letting go of her sentiments by "evaporating" them on you? This is not to defend what she does, but there is also the rule that one should not criticize anyone until you know what she or he has gone through.

If you are unhappy in your present work, you may want to look for another job. However, that will not be easy to do in the present times. You should also be glad you are in the family business. I wish you had

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

given me more details but I hope what I have just said may help you face the future with more patience and understanding. (What follows is also another letter with limited background.)

Hoping to be an artist

I AM so upset, because until now I can't find any way to pursue my college education because my parents cannot support me financially. Also, my grades lowered to 78 percent average during my fourth year in high school. I finished high school without asking for support because I had a scholarship and sacrificed myself just to study here in Manila.

Now I'm already 20 years old, depressed and hopeless. I think I can no longer fulfill my dream of becoming an artist someday. I have this God-given talent and I don't want to lose and waste it. I want to share it with everyone. I want to survive and reach my goals in life, to help my family and the poorest, especially young, talented people.

Please, can you help me solve this problem? When I try to tell some people, they cannot do anything but say, "Sa-yang ang talent mo." Of course, I never want to lose my trust in God and I believe that with Him I can do anything because He is my everything and yes, through the help of others and my own effort, too.

I'll do everything to finish my studies

and be an artist. I'm begging you, please help me find the solution to my problem.

Sometimes I feel I'm nothing, too. I'm so depressed. I just hope I can find the stepping stone to my dreams. Thank you for reading my letter and letting me share my problem with you.

UPSET GIRL

You did not write down your home address, but it is only in the postmark that I see you mailed your letter in Cainta, Rizal. But my dear, Upset Girl, you wrote down your name on the envelope. I shall mention it here, because some thoughtful reader may have a good suggestion for your problem.

It's good you trust God. You know, God moves in mysterious ways.

Dear readers, her name is Shenley Alcalin.

\*\*\*

Another SOS: Vertically deprived

I am turning 21 on Oct. 21 and may I ask if there are medicines or anything that can help me grow. I am losing hope and I'm afraid I would be always vertically deprived. Please help. I'm embarrassed every time I divulge my true age.

VERTICALLY DEPRIVED

Sorry, hija. I have no ready answer, but if readers will get in touch with this column, I will publish their answers because there surely are many others with the same problem. And I will, of course, e-mail the info to you at sandejas18jas18@yahoo.com.au.

Dear Brian Gates,

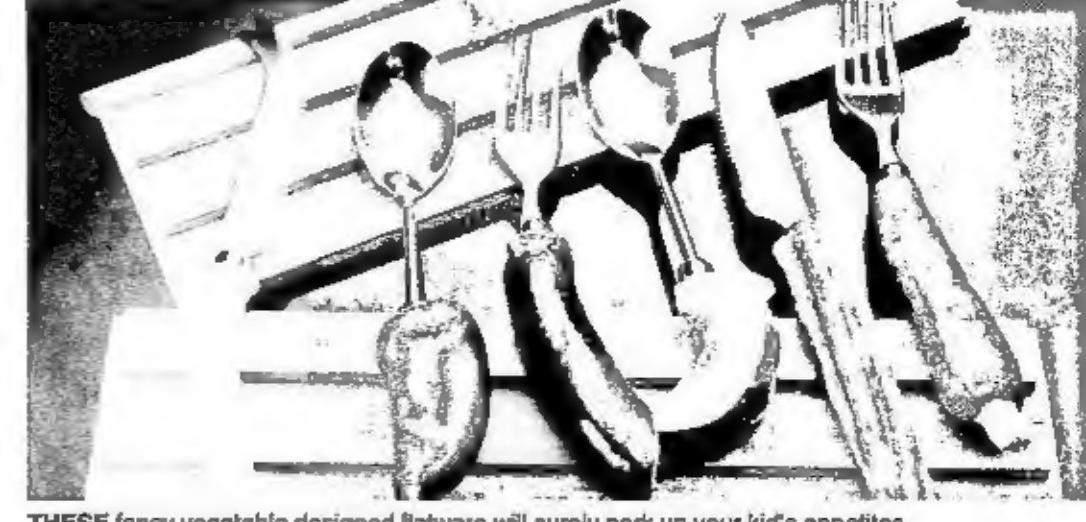
Kindly give me your home address because I have three letters here for you. The senders do not have e-mail. Thank you.

E-mail titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati City, or PDI, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

\*\*\*

## Flatware to suit your lifestyle

MAKE dinner a more pleasant and interesting experience with Our Home's elegant and well crafted flatware by Unica Filipina. With their unique designs, the pieces resemble modern sculpture and have just the right look for urban living. Patterned to suit your lifestyle, the Unica Filipina flatware collection is available at Our Home at LG/F SM Megamall, Mega A.



THESE fancy vegetable designed flatware will surely perk up your kid's appetites.

## VISA welcomes Standard Chartered Bank to the Electron revolution.



From groceries to the latest gadgets or for just dining out, use the new Standard Chartered Bank VISA Electron card! It's accepted wherever you see the VISA sign. It also lets you withdraw from over 640,000 VISA-affiliated ATMs worldwide, and from over a million Bancnet and Megalink ATMs locally. Now that's real access to your cash, to spend as you please. There's no minimum salary requirement. So ask about it at any Standard Chartered Bank branch.

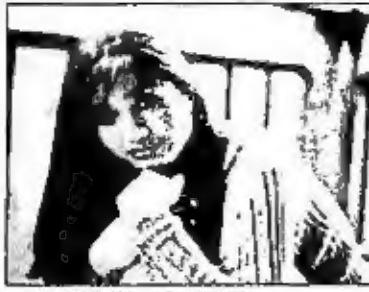


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- HAIR GROWTH
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- SHAMPOO

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FARVIEW, Lower Ground Level Bldg 125-7423 SM BACOOR, Lower Ground Level (ext) 316-4052

ROBINSONS PLACE ERMITA, 3rd Flr. Bldg 125-403 V ROBINSON PLACE MACAOLO (041) 441-0064

LAB PIAZA, Tu Mab Bldg 123-5467 COTE D'CO GRAND CENTRAL, Ground Flr. Bldg 123-363-6699

SM CITY MARILAO, Level 6, Phase 1 Bldg 123-7437 SM CITY BACOOR, 2nd Floor (045) 562-2382

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VERTICAL garden as seen from the main house entry

POTTED banana trees add a bucolic charm.

## Easy recipes from a 'non-gardener'

(From page E4)

When Georgie was gifted with this property by her father, her primary consideration was the house that consists of several buildings connected by footpaths and hallways. Rooms for her family and her guests came up in no time. Georgie is a self-confessed food lover and she loves entertaining.

The garden is down to its barest essentials, juxtaposed to the stylish settings of Georgie's home. It really becomes a blank slate where she invites anyone who is kind enough to share with her ideas and tips on what to do with her open space. It's an interactive garden, so to speak. You visit, you give ideas and you implement them.

Others have gone before you, however. Georgie's husband William planted narra trees in reaction to the depletion of natural Philippine forests. This later gave way to other plants that Jean, his British mother, introduced. These were high-altitude plants like *auracaria* and pine trees and a host of flowering plants. Georgie later introduced tropics like *heliconias* and *hibiscuses*. She prefers big-leaved varieties like *philodendrons*. The fishtail palm provides her with instant bouquets of exotic seeds.

### Ideas garden

Friends like Nisy Yabut-Cojuanco and Gabby Barredo brought in their own ideas, too. They worked together to create a dry bridge accented with Balinese-inspired lotus lamps made of bamboo and capped with wild grasses. I, too, was tempted to share some ideas with her, but lunch came all too soon and with it, the frenzy of a working afternoon shooting other gardens before heading back to Manila. It was during this lunch where I noticed the exact purpose of the garden.

Amid the buildings and the outhouses lay a large brick oven. Constructed by a specialist that does this type of ovens specifically for *pain de sal*, this huge oven is the hearth of most of the gatherings that take place in the open spaces. From this oven roast, meats and vegetables, breads and especially delicious pizzas emerge.

Another interesting fact from our "non-gardener" is that Georgie has now taken to the art of making compost, something she has learned from Gretchen O. Cojuangco, who is her sister's mother-in-law. It is a practical and completely pro-environmental exercise, which she encourages everyone to do. So much from one who simply won't admit she is, deep at heart, a gardener in her own right.

The recipes:

### 3 Formaggio Pizza

Equal amounts of:  
Gorgonzola, *bel paese*, Mozzarella (*di buffala*) cheeses

Pizza dough (store-bought or homemade)  
Generous amount of olive oil

Brush pizza dough with olive oil. Sprinkle equal amounts of cheeses on the dough. Dribble olive oil over cheese and bake in a very hot oven for 10 minutes. In her brick oven, the pizza is done in 2 minutes.

### Compost

All fruit and vegetable peels and rinds  
Food stuff excess like egg shells, used ground coffee and tea  
Dry leaves and twigs broken into small pieces  
Grass cuttings

Mix all of the above in quantities that your compost pit can hold. (Do not place food like meats, meat bones and rice.) Cover the mixture with a little garden soil. Make sure your compost pit can be covered from excess moisture as this will ruin your compost. Cover and leave for a week before turning. Continue adding grass cuttings once a week and in six weeks, your trash will be excellent compost. A remarkable percentage of your garbage is environmentally recycled without burning or dumping.

(In a few future issues, Lifestyle will feature Georgie's house.)



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Get a full day watching the making of JP III, get a glimpse of the movie teasers and get exclusive behind the scenes

dinosaur movie-making secrets on Giant Philips TV

Schedule:  
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July 26-28  
July 30-Aug 1  
Aug 3-5  
Aug 8-10  
Aug 14-16

SM Southmall  
SM City Manila  
SM Megamall  
SM Supercenter Sucat  
SM City North Edsa  
SM City Pampanga

### COME TO STORYLAND

Visit Storyland SM Southmall & Storyland SM City Fairview and see how you can GET FREE MOVIE TICKETS!

### PARTY TIL EXTINCTION

Take a journey to the Megatrip @ SM Megamall on July 21, 2001 at 7:30 PM and party with bands, rock climbing, henna tattooing, freebies & a lot more!

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Be one click away from your favorite dino as you pose along with the giant standees of JP3.

Schedule:  
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July 16-20  
July 23-27  
July 26-28  
July 30-Aug 1  
Aug 3-5  
Aug 5-8  
Aug 8-10  
Aug 14-16

SM Southmall  
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